

*As we unite in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present. May we together experience the presence of God*

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**We Gather to Prepare Our Hearts to Meet Our Lord**



**The Gathering of the Community**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Dear friends in Christ, we have come together on this Trinity Sunday to celebrate in word and song and to affirm our faith in God, the Three in One.

As we stand in God's presence, let us pray:

Almighty God, before you angels sang for joy when you created with your voice the heavens and the earth.

**Hear our voice this day and accept our praise and thanksgiving for the gift of speech and song, which we on earth share with the heavenly host.**

O Jesus Christ, you are the Word made flesh, the firstborn of many sisters and brothers in the family of God who have heard your music in their hearts.

**Open the ears of our hearts this day, that all we say and all we sing may reveal you in us and us in you, whose body and voice we are in this world.**

O Holy Spirit, with tongues of fire you have inspired the speech and song of evangelists, preachers, poets, and musicians.

**Visit us this day to kindle anew the fire of love and the light of understanding, that your church may live in the counterpoint of community.**

O Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, you are three persons in one God living in harmony. As your church, our many voices, our many lives, become one chorus to praise your holy name.

**Bless our coming together now so that we, in communion with your saints, may hear your voice and sing your words this day and always. Amen.**

## God the Creator (Father)

Let us confess our faith in God, the Father:

### We believe in one God,

the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.

### Hymn UMH #152 “I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

Author: Isaac Watts (1715)

Publication Date: 1989

Tune Information

Name: FOREST GREEN

Arranger: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1906)

<http://www.gbod3.org/sorter/audio/152.mp3>

**1. I sing the almighty power of God,  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at God's  
command,  
and all the stars obey.**

**2. I sing the goodness of the Lord,  
who filled the earth with food,  
who formed the creatures thru the  
Word,**

**and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky.**

**3. There's not a plant or flower below,  
but makes thy glories known,  
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care;  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.**

### Reading: God affirms his creative power

**Job 38:1-7, 16-18, 28-30, 36; 42:1-2**

#### **The Lord Answers Job**

*38 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:*

*2 “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?*

*3 Gird up your loins like a man;*

*I will question you, and you shall declare to me.*

*4 “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?*

*Tell me, if you have understanding.*

*5 Who determined its measurements—surely you know!*

*Or who stretched the line upon it?*

*6 On what were its bases sunk,*

*or who laid its cornerstone*

*7 when the morning stars sang together*

*and all the heavenly beings[a] shouted for joy?*

*16 “Have you entered into the springs of the sea*

*or walked in the recesses of the deep?*

*17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you,*

or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?  
28 "Has the rain a father,  
or who has fathered the drops of dew?  
29 From whose womb did the ice come forth,  
and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven?  
30 The waters become hard like stone,  
and the face of the deep is frozen.  
36 Who has put wisdom in the inward parts[a]  
or given understanding to the mind?[b]  
Job Is Humbled and Satisfied  
42 Then Job answered the Lord:  
  
2 "I know that you can do all things  
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

### **Hymn UMH #97 "For the Fruits of This Creation"**

Author: Fred Pratt Green (1970)

Publication Date: 1989

Copyright: Words © 1970 Hope Publishing Co.

Tune Information

Name: EAST ACKLAM

Composer: Francis Jackson (1957)

Copyright: Music © 1960 Francis Jackson

<http://www.gbod3.org/sorter/audio/688.mp3>

**1 For the fruits of this creation,  
thanks be to God;  
for good gifts to every nation,  
thanks be to God;  
for the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping,  
thanks be to God.**

**2 In the just reward of labor,  
God's will is done;  
in the help we give our neighbor,  
God's will is done;**

**in our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.**

**3 For the harvests of the Spirit,  
thanks be to God;  
for the good we all inherit,  
thanks be to God;  
for the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all, that love has found us,  
thanks be to God.**

### **God the Redeemer (Son) Confession of Faith**

Let us confess our faith in God the Son by continuing to use the words of the Nicene Creed:

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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.**

**Hymn UMH #536 "Precious Name"**

*Author: Lydia Baxter (1870)*

*Publication Date: 1989*

*Tune Information*

*Composer: William H. Doane (1871)*

<http://www.gbod3.org/sorter/audio/536.mp3>

**1. Take the name of Jesus with you,  
child of sorrow and of woe;  
it will joy and comfort give you;  
take it then, where'er you go.**

**Refrain:**

**Precious name, O how sweet!  
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.  
Precious name, O how sweet!  
Hope of earth and joy of heaven.**

**2. Take the name of Jesus ever,  
as a shield from every snare;  
if temptations round you gather,  
breathe that holy name in prayer.**

**(Refrain)**

**3. O the precious name of Jesus!  
How it thrills our souls with joy,  
when his loving arms receive us,  
and his songs our tongues employ!  
(Refrain)**

**4. At the name of Jesus bowing,  
falling prostrate at his feet,  
King of kings in heaven we'll crown  
him,  
when our journey is complete.  
(Refrain)**

**Reading: "Who do you say I am?"**

**Luke 9:18-26, 28-36**

[dramatic reading involving five readers]

**Narrator:** A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Once when Jesus was praying in private and his disciples were with him, he asked them:

**Jesus:** Who do the crowds say I am?

**Narrator:** They replied,

**Disciples:** Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life.

**Narrator:** Then Jesus asked the disciples:

**Jesus:** But what about you? Who do you say I am?

**Narrator:** Peter answered:

**Peter:** The Christ of God.

**Narrator:** Jesus strictly warned them not to tell this to anyone. And he said,

**Jesus:** The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

**Narrator:** Then Jesus said to them all:

**Jesus:** If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

**Narrator:** About eight days after Jesus had said this, he took Peter, John, and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem.

Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw Jesus' glory and the two men standing with him.

As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him,

**Peter:** Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

**Narrator:** Now Peter did not really know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying,

**God's Voice:** This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.

**Narrator:** When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and told no one at that time what they had seen.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Hymn UMH #606 "Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine**

*Author: Charles Wesley (1762)*

*Publication Date: 1989*

*Tune Information*

*Name: KINGSFOLD*

<http://www.gbod3.org/sorter/audio/606.mp3>

**1. Come, let us use the grace divine,  
and all with one accord,  
in a perpetual covenant  
join ourselves to Christ the Lord;  
Give up ourselves, thru Jesus' power,  
his name to glorify;  
and promise, in this sacred hour,  
for God to live and die.**

**2. The covenant we this moment make  
be ever kept in mind;  
we will no more our God forsake,**

**or cast these words behind.  
We never will throw off the fear  
of God who hears our vow;  
and if thou art well pleased to hear,  
come down and meet us now.**

**3. Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
let all our hearts receive,  
present with thy celestial host  
the peaceful answer give;  
to each covenant the blood apply  
which takes our sins away,**

**and register our names on high**

**and keep us to that day!**

**God the Sustainer (Holy Spirit)**

**Let us unite in the continued confession our faith in God the Holy Spirit through the final words of the Nicene Creed:**

**I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Reading: Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit, our Helper  
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-7, 12-15**

*26 "When the Advocate[a] comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. 27 You also are to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.*

*But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.*

*The Work of the Spirit*

*"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate[a] will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you*

*12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Holy, holy, holy God, in calling forth creation from the void, revealing yourself in human flesh, and pouring forth your wisdom to guide us, you manifest your concern for your whole universe. You invite us, as your people, to gather the world's needs into our hearts and bring them before you.

Holy, holy, holy Father, Father of Christ, Immanuel, upon whom the Spirit remained, remain with us today. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit that we may proclaim all that Christ revealed and rejoice in the glory he shared with us. Let us proclaim the good news with our words of hope. Let us proclaim the good news with our deeds of peace and reconciliation. Let us proclaim the good news by our commitment to love and to serve

those made in your image. Let us hear the good news when we are still. Let us believe the good news through trust in God's promise.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of our divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever as we continue to pray saying...

### **Hymn UMH #608 "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now"**

*Author: Thomas E. Herbranson (1972)*

*Publication Date: 1989*

*Copyright: Words © 1972 Thomas E. Herbranson*

*Tune Information*

*Composer: Carl G. Gläzer*

<http://www.gbod3.org/sorter/audio/57.mp3> (Only play 3 verses)

- 1. This is the Spirit's entry now;  
the water and the word,  
the cross of Jesus on your brow,  
the seal both felt and heard.**
- 2. Let water be the sacred sign  
that we must die each day,  
to rise again by his design**
- as followers of his way.**
- 3. Renewing Spirit, hear our praise  
for your baptismal power  
that washes us through all our  
days. Lord, cleanse again this  
hour**

### **The Blessing**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Let us go in peace in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen