

St Matthews Service

Rev. Christopher LaBoube
June 07, 2020
The Holy Trinity

"Trust in the Lord with all our heart, and lean not on our own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge him and he will direct your path." **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

504 Walnut Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Church Office: 881-2243 Fax: 881-1163

Email: office@stmatthewmapleton.org

website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org

FB page: [St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton](https://www.facebook.com/St-Matthew-Lutheran-Mapleton)

Rev. Christopher LaBoube
Pastor
(712) 881-3322
(712-840-1652 cell)

Karen Krusen
Office Administrator Assistant
(volunteer)
(712) 881-2243-office #
(712) 840-9059 cell



Holy Trinity Sunday

7 June 2020

St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Mapleton, IA

Genesis 1:1—2:4a / Psalm 8 / Acts 2:14 a, 22–36 / Matthew 28:16–20

Sermon Title: Believe in the Triune God

Sermon Text: Romans 10:5-13

“Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, and our LORD Jesus Christ.” (2 Tim. 1:2) Amen.

Today is Holy Trinity Sunday. It is one of the Sundays in the church year that we say the Athanasian Creed. The Athanasian Creed is the longest creed that we have. The largest chunk of this creed focuses on the Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Athanasian Creed was written—as were the Apostles’ and Nicene Creeds—to counter heresy within the church and to remind people the truth that the Scriptures teach. Around the time that the Athanasian Creed was being written, false teaching crept into the church saying that Jesus was not part of the Trinity. This is why it can seem like the Athanasian Creed goes on and on about the three persons of the Trinity.

Over the years, I’ve had some people say that they don’t believe in the Trinity simply because it isn’t in the Bible. Even though the word “trinity” is not found in the Bible, the three persons of the Trinity are very real and present all throughout the Scriptures.

The one thing that the Athanasian Creed states is that if you don’t believe in the Trinity, then you aren’t a Christian. Now that is a bold statement, and can sound too judgmental, but it’s not. There are a lot of things written in the Bible that cause some people to get offended. That’s the nature of Scripture. When biblical truth rubs you the wrong way, and you get offended, that is simply the Holy Spirit working in you through the Word. God may be showing you an area of your life that needs attention, but maybe you want to ignore.

The Athanasian Creed begins and ends with such a bold statement: “1. Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith. 2. Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally....40. This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.”

This is one of those statements that makes some people bristle. If you don’t believe what the Scriptures teach, and are summarized in the Athanasian Creed, then you won’t be going to heaven. This seems like a narrow-minded statement, but it’s simply what Jesus teaches us:

“because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9) And, in Mark: “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:16)

The Athanasian Creed uses the term “catholic faith,” but this is not referring to the Roman Catholic Church. The phrase “catholic faith” also means “universal faith.” So the Athanasian Creed focuses on the “universal Christians faith” found in the Bible—not on any one church body.

Which gets us back to that opening and closing statement—“1. Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith. 2. Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally....40. This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.” Essentially the Athanasian Creed is saying—if you don’t believe in the Triune God found all throughout the Bible—then you won’t go to heaven. All throughout the Bible, Jesus teaches us that there is only one way to heaven—by believing in Jesus.

“because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)

Believe. Have faith in God. That's how you get to heaven. And, Jesus doesn't tell us that you have to understand every point in the Bible in order to get to heaven. Jesus simply tells us to have a child-like faith and trust him when he tells us the facts.

“3. And the catholic faith is this—that is, the universal Christian faith—is this, 4. That we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, // neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance. 5. For the Father is one person, // the Son is another, // and the Holy Spirit is another. 6. But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: // the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.”

As I mentioned before, when the Athanasian Creed was being written, some people claimed that Jesus was not god—and that or that he wasn't part of the Trinity. But the Scriptures clearly teach us that there are three persons in the Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And each person of the Trinity is unique from every other person in the Trinity.

In *Luther's Small Catechism*, the Apostles' Creed is divided into three parts—each part of the Apostles' Creed focuses on one person of the Trinity. The first part—or the First Article of the Apostles' Creed focuses on God the Father and the creation of the world. The second part—or the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed focuses on God the Son, Jesus Christ and redemption—how and why Jesus saved people from going to hell.

And the third part—or the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed focuses on God the Holy Spirit and sanctification—that is, the on-going work of the Holy Spirit in your life—teaching you all that Jesus wants you to know about himself. This is what Jesus says in John 14:26: “*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to remembrance all that I have said to you.*”

One of the jobs of the Holy Spirit is to teach us. This is why it's important to memorize Scripture portions. When you memorize different Bible passages, then you continue to fill up with Jesus and all that he wants you to know.

I realize that memory work isn't fashionable these days, and that people would rather just search for something on Google instead of committing it to memory. When you memorize Scripture, God the Holy Spirit uses that to your advantage. When you're in a situation and you don't know what to do, if you have memorized Scripture, God can use that Bible passage to remind you of what you should do.

When you memorize Scripture, then you are putting the truth in your heart. You don't have to ask Google, because you'll know the truth that sets you free. Such truth includes these points about each person of the Trinity:

“19. 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.... 23. Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits. 24. And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another; 25. 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. 26. Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.”

When the Athanasian Creed was being drafted, some folks kept saying that the Trinity didn't exist, and that there were three distinct gods in the Bible—three gods that had nothing to do with each other and were totally independent of each other. That is false teaching. The Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—IS in the Bible. All three persons are talked about all throughout the Bible.

In addition to the Bible talking about the Trinity, the Word of God can also be divided into Law and Gospel which we also see in the Athanasian Creed. The Law shows us our sins, and our desperate situation that we need 3

someone to save us from going to hell. The Law simply kills. That's its job. The Gospel then shows us our forgiveness. How God saves us from going to hell. The Gospel offers us comfort when we are struggling.

One example of Law and Gospel is found in Confession and Absolution. The Law says that we have sinned against God—we have done something contrary to what God asks of us. We confess our sins—the things we have done wrong. That is the Law.

The Gospel shows us God's gracious forgiveness. After we confess our sins, we receive forgiveness from God for those sins that we just confessed. This is the Gospel. *"The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made."* (Psalm 145:8-9)

This is why it's so important to read or listen to the Bible regularly. So you can put the truth in your heart and mind. *"So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, 'If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.'"* (John 8:31-32)

This is why the Athanasian Creed focuses on two big points—the Trinity and the person and work of Jesus Christ. And, again, Scripture is very clear, if you don't believe in Jesus, then you won't go to heaven. *"because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."* (Romans 10:9)

WHO Jesus is and WHAT role Jesus fills in saving people is outlined in the Athanasian Creed: "27. But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. 28. 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."

Now just because you might not completely understand how Jesus can be both God AND man at the same time, that's okay. This is where faith comes in—simply trusting God. This is what Jesus asks of you—to simply believe.

Believing that Jesus is both God and man might not be easy, but this is a point that is stressed in the last part of the Athanasian Creed: "32. Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ: 35. For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ, 36. Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead, 37. 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."

Believing that Jesus did all these things can seem far-fetched to some folks. But all you have to do is believe. And, if you struggle to believe all of these things about Jesus, pray and ask God to help you believe—pray and ask God to help you to trust him that in spite of any confusion you might have about any topic in the Bible.

Though the Athanasian Creed talks extensively about the Trinity and the person and work of Jesus Christ, this long creed is actually just a summary of what is taught in the Bible. If you want to know more about what Jesus has to say to you and your specific life—then open the Bible and read it or listen to an audio Bible yourself.

When you read or listen to the Bible, you fill up with Jesus so that you can then pour out Jesus to others. When you pour out Jesus to others, then you're sharing the hope you have in Jesus. So when you fill up with Jesus, then you know how SIMPLY and CONCISELY to share the truth about who Jesus is and what Jesus has done for you. To God be the glory now and forever. Amen.

Now, may the peace of God which transcends all understanding guard and keep your hearts in Christ Jesus. Amen. 4



Memory Verse Challenge

Worship Ministry • The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

<https://www.lcms.org/worship/memory-verse-challenge>

The church confesses to Christ, “*You have the words of eternal life*” (John 6:68). The church is encouraged to “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly ...*” (Col. 3:16). Psalm 1 teaches us to meditate on God's Word day and night. It is our great opportunity and joy to read and study God's Word. One beneficial practice is to memorize the Scriptures and, in so doing, to meditate on it. The LCMS invites everyone to join together memorizing a verse together each week.

This week's memory verse: John 14:6

Memory verses from previous weeks:

May 25 — Philippians 4:6–7

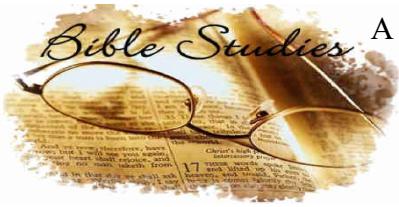
May 18 — Galatians 2:20

May 11 — 2 Corinthians 5:17

Give the office a call or the Pastor...

Before going to hospital
Birth of your baby
Death in the family
Making wedding plans
Address or name changes
Private communion
Entering armed services
Desire to serve your Lord through the Church





The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted individuals and families in various ways and to varying degrees. Some have only been inconvenienced; others have been devastated. But there's one element to this pandemic that I believe everyone has felt equally—frustration at not knowing what to believe, whom to trust, and which set of “facts” is the right set.

If there's one word that encapsulates this pandemic and global crisis, it's possibly uncertainty, or maybe confusion. One expert says one thing, but click over to the next article and an equally qualified researcher in a white lab coat will tell you the exact opposite. Who do we believe? Which model is correct? Were shutdowns necessary? Should we wear masks? Yes, we should. Wait, maybe, no, we don't need to? (At least we can all agree that everyone should wash their hands!) It's a confusing mess! As AiG (Answers in Genesis) staff member Dr. David Menton put it, “for every expert, there's an equal and opposite expert.”

As I was reflecting on this and praying that God would grant our leaders wisdom to see through the fog to make prudent decisions that would promote the well-being of as many people as possible, I was struck by how different my frustrations with all the “experts” were, compared to how I felt when I came to God's Word.

Your Word Is Truth

When I come to God's Word, I come with simple faith, acknowledging that God is the one who knows all things, who never lies, who is never wrong, and who never changes. The Bible is his written Word, so I expect it to reflect his character—to be truthful in everything it says and to never change. I don't have to read his Word and wonder if it's true or not. I don't have to wrestle with passages wondering “Is this really accurate? Did the writer have all the facts?” I know it's true; every word of it.

Now that's not to say I understand every single thing in Scripture or don't wrestle with portions of it. It's been said that the Bible is simple enough for a child to understand and deep enough that multitudes of scholars, past and present, have spent their lifetimes studying it, and they still find new things every time they open it. The Bible is written by the God whose ways are above our ways and whose thoughts are above our thoughts. But the overall message of the Bible is one of simplicity and clarity; it's understandable without the help of experts, who don't always agree. (This doctrine is known as the “perspicuity of Scripture.”)

This is particularly true in Genesis. I don't come to Genesis and wonder, “does day really mean day?” “Did God really create ‘male and female’—maybe that's not what that really means.” Or does “all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered” (Genesis 7:19) really mean all the mountains under the whole heaven?

We Have an Anchor

Instead of being tossed around by the ever-changing, and often contradictory, opinions and beliefs of man, I have a solid foundation on which to base my thinking—the unchanging, infallible, inerrant Word of God, taken naturally (as it was meant to be read).

Right now, we're in confusing times, with experts disagreeing and public policy makers rarely on the same page. This is frustrating (to put it mildly). But if you're a believer, stop and take a moment to thank God for his clear, unchanging Word. Thank him that we don't have the same frustrations when it comes to the basic doctrines of Scripture. Instead we have an anchor for the soul, a hope that never changes, a gospel that is always true and is so for every person, in every culture, and in every time. The Bible's great and precious promises are as true during the coronavirus pandemic as they were before it and will be when this pandemic and quarantine is just a chapter in a history book.

Scripture Readings 06-07-20

Old Testament Reading: Gen. 1: 1-2: 4 b

Gradual: Ps. 145: 3, 5 b, 6 b

Psalm 8

Epistle: Acts 2:14 a, 22-36

Gospel: Matt. 28: 16-20



Confirmation date is June 28th, we have 4 children being confirmed this year. If anyone wishes to send them a card I entered their address for your convenience

CHILD BEING CONFIRMED	CHILD'S BIRTHDATE	CHILD'S BAPTISM	AGE	PARENT'S NAME	ADDRESS
Autumn Brodersen	7/27/2006	09/07/06	13	Nathan & Betsy Brodersen	104 Chamberlain St
Kaylee Goslar	10/13/2005	11/20/05	14	Darren & Sarah Goslar	508 14th St. Onawa, IA 51040
Makenna Meseck	6/20/2006	06/16/06	13	Amy & the late Korey Meseck	217 N Day Ave. Ute, IA 51060
Paige Schmidt	1/11/2006	01/22/06	14	Kurt & Sarah Schmidt	405 S. 5th St Mapleton, IA 51034

Letter from the Board of Directors:

Praise God from whom all Blessing flow. *I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.* **PS. 122: 1.** We will resume worship June 14, 2020 with a 9:30 service. There will be no Bible Study. We will follow CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guide lines of Social distancing, wearing of masks and no hand shaking. We could use help getting the sanctuary ready for this service so if you would like to help please contact the church. We are planning on doing this on Monday, June 8th around 9 am. We also will need volunteers to disinfect the church after each service in the future, so please keep that in mind for future volunteers. God's blessings to all of you. Bob Andre, Joan Chandler, Diana Schauer, Laurie Streck, Leo Erlemeier, Julie Bollig, Karen Kueny, Burt Schauer;

The Board of Directors.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS



GOD'S	CHILD	DATE
Banks	Bonnie	Jun 2, 1934
Greiner	Mark	Jun 14, 1954
Jacobson	Ferne	Jun 30, 1930
Johnson	Kay	Jun 8, 1941
Kelm	Max	Jun 10, 2012
Krusen	Joe	Jun 12, 1983
Livermore	Deloris	Jun 9, 1929
Ohlmeier	Tyler	Jun 6, 2004
Ohlmeier	Shawn	Jun 26, 1983
Scheer	Weston	Jun 28, 2015
Schmidt	Sarah	Jun 14, 1981
Witzel	Mark	Jun, 1959



MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY		
GOD'S CHILDREN	50+ yrs.	DATE
Robert and Wanda Andre	52 yrs.	Jun 23, 1968
Doc and Kay Johnson	58 yrs.	Jun 23, 1962
Melvin and Selma Schrader	59 yrs.	Jun 15, 1961
Grant and Shirley Scoles	57 yrs.	Jun 28, 1963



We are listing Baptismal birthdays to remember and celebrate the day we were adopted into the family of God through the washing of the Holy Spirit.

If your birthday or baptism birthday or the birthday or baptism birthday of any church member you know doesn't appear on the list – it is because we don't have it on file. Please contact the church office so this information can be added to our information data.

It is important that all information on our church members be kept updated – including birthday, baptism, confirmation, marriage, children and change of address. Please keep the office updated

BIRTHDAYS



GOD'S	CHILD	DATE
Banks	Bonnie	Jun 2, 1934 85
Bollig	Julie	Jun 18, 1958
Brodersen	Nathan	Jun 26, 1981
Brown	Brenda	Jun 26, 1963
Bruhn	Hudson	Jun 20, 2011
Fick	Phyllis	Jun 3, 1928 91
Ingram	Roger	Jun 12, 1935 84
Kelm	Raylyn	Jun 12, 2010
Kroll	Delbert	Jun 1, 1933 86
Kueny	Karen	Jun 8, 1948
Marsh	Durene	Jun 7, 1960
Meseck	Randi	Jun 20, 1948
Meseck	MaKenna	Jun 20, 2006
Pope	Sharon	Jun 16, 1940 80
Riesberg	Jeannette	Jun 30, 1957
Schauer	Diana	Jun 27, 1964
Wessling	Dorothy	Jun 29, 1942
Witzel	Ernest	Jun 18, 1936 83

I asked the Lord to bless you as I prayed for you today. To guide you and protect you as you go along your way...His love is always with you, His promises are true. And when we give Him all our cares, you know He will see us through.



Please continue to pray for our church leaders.

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." **Romans 12:12**



Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

PRAYER WARRIORS—The prayer warriors desire to hear from you as to how they can pray for you. We have 14 prayer warriors. We welcome more men and women to join us. if you need prayer call Alice Miller phone number 712-880-2380.

Members of St. Matthew with Special Needs and Concerns needing our prayers. Please call the church office if you want to be added to this list for any reason, thank you.

Nazaria Kaderabek	Bud Dose	Lillian Wodtke	Kevin Dose
Elnora Dose	Robert Banks	Arlene Kiepe	Selma Schrader
Carol Dose	Marilyn Hamann	Joyce Kruse	Peg Jacobson

Family / Friends of Members with Special Needs and Concerns

Susan Miller (Alice Miller's daughter) **Sheri Heilman**— Sue Oberg's sister; **Ron Kraffle** friend of Marla & Joe Hogan; **Aiyanan Bowman** Darlene Bowman, (Christiansen) mother-in-law; Kirby **Reitz** son of Don & Carolyn former members their address: 7214 South Bitterroot Court Sioux falls SD 57108. **Boyd Yaden** great uncle of Sarah Schmidt; **Randy Boysen**—son of Deloris Boysen **Steve Ashley**, (former member's address: Intensive care unit rm 4 Unity Point Health 2720 Stone Park Blvd Sioux City, IA 51104)

Prayer of Thanksgiving from Marla & Joe Hogan on the birth of a new granddaughter Cora Rose, to Nick and Maggie Mauch, born on 06-01-20.

Please drop them a line or two, they love getting mail and they would love hearing from their church family.

Spread the Fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Gentleness, Kindness, Self-Control, Goodness, and Faithfulness. You will be rewarded

Bob Banks 92 yrs. Aug 7, 1928

Maple Heights Nursing Home

Sunrise Ave

Mapleton, IA 51034

Wedding ann. Nov. 12, 1955

Bonnie Banks 86 yrs. Jun 2, 1934

Main Street Apartments

516 Main Street Apt 2

Mapleton, IA 51034

George Koithan 88 yrs. Sept. 2, 1932

1726 Marcella Heights

Carroll, IA 51040

Myrna Gosch 79 yrs. Jan 9, 1941

Prime Living Apartments

725 Pearl St. Apt. 218

Sioux City, IA

Delbert Kroll 87 yrs. Jun. 1, 1933

Ring Street

Mapleton IA 51034

Evelyn Christiansen 100 yrs. Jul 4, 1920

4204 SE. 29th Ave.

Amarillo, TX 79103 % Joan Valdez

Arlene Kiepe 103 yr. July 29, 1917

Maple Heights Nursing Home

Sunrise Ave

Mapleton, IA 51034

Elnora Dose 85 yrs. May 11, 1935

Embassy Rehab & Care Center

206 Port Neal Rd

Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054

Delores Boysen 81 yrs. Mar. 5, 1939

31153 Juinter Ave

Hinton, IA 51024

Phyllis Fick 92 yrs. Jun 3, 1928

Willow Dale Care—Assisted Living

404 1st St.

Battle Creek, IA 51006

Lillian Wodtke 104 yrs. May 24, 1916

Accura Health Care of Spirit Lake

1912 Zenith Ave

Spirit Lake, IA 51360



504 Walnut
Mapleton, IA 51034

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO CONTINUE TO FILL UP WITH JESUS BY READING AND LISTENING TO THE BIBLE:

Facebook page: St. Matthew Lutheran-Mapleton— Our services at 9 am every Sunday

website: www.stmatthewmapleton.org — Our services posted weekly

WEB SITES: Iowa District West—www.idwlcms.org Camp Okoboji – www.campokoboji.org

“THY STRONG WORD” is a daily devotion airing at 6:25 am Monday through Saturday on KDSN (107.1FM)

“THE LUTHERAN HOUR” can be heard every Sunday on radio station—KDSN-FM (107,1) at 6:30 am and 1530 at 10:30 am. It is available 24 hours a day on the internet in Real Audio. Visit www.lhm.org and click on the Lutheran Hour on the left side of the page.

“THE GOOD SHEPHEARD HOUR” airs on the following stations every Sunday: 8am Fort Dodge-KVFD 1400 AM; 8am Sioux City—KSCJ 1360 AM; 10:30 am Storm Lake—KAYL 101.5 FM

Main Street Living— is a Television Program that is endorsed by the Iowa West District of the LCMS This program is broadcast on KCAU, the ABC network affiliate in Sioux City on Sunday morning, starting at 10:00 AM. The first 30 minutes are remastered episode of “This is the Life” The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the area.

CELL PHONE vs BIBLE

- ♦ I wonder what would happen if we treated our Bible like we treat our cell phone?
- ♦ What if we carried it around in our purses or pockets?
- ♦ What if we flipped through it several times a day?
- ♦ What if we turned back to go get it if we forgot it?
- ♦ What if we used it to receive messages from the text?
- ♦ What if we treated it like we couldn't live without it?
- ♦ What if we gave it to our kids as gifts?
- ♦ What if we used it when we traveled?
- ♦ What if used it in case of emergency?
- ♦ This is something to make you gohmm...where is my Bible?
- ♦ Oh, and one more thing. Unlike our cell phone, we don't have to worry about our Bible being disconnected because Jesus already paid the bill.
- ♦ Makes you stop and think “where are my priorities? And no dropped calls!



OR

