

# *Handouts for Trinity Sunday Session*

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# *Opening Prayer*

## *Opening*

**Leader:**

Let us pray to our one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Father, you sent your Word to bring us truth and your Spirit to make us holy. Through them we come to know the mystery of life. Help us to worship you, one God in three Persons, by proclaiming and living our faith in you. Amen

(Adapted from the liturgy for Trinity Sunday)

Light the first wick on the candle.

## *Procession*

**Reader One**

(Read slowly as the globe is processed forward and placed on the shorter table near the wick that is burning.)

We honor God as Father and creator of all that is, all that is seen and unseen. All things come into being as an outpouring of the abundant love that the Father shares with the Son and the Spirit. Creation is a gift from the love of the Father. Please respond: Glory to the Father!

**All**

*Glory to the Father!*

Light the second wick on the candle.

**Reader Two**

(Read slowly as the Bible is processed forward and placed on the shorter table near the second wick that is burning.)

We honor God as Son who is the Word of God made flesh. Christ is more than words on pages; rather, Christ is the living Word of God spoken eternally from the heart of God and through all the ages. The Bible is a gift inspired by the Son who is the living Word of God. Please respond: Glory to the Son!

**All**

*Glory to the Son!*

Light the third wick on the candle.

**Reader Three**

(Read slowly as the church model is processed forward and placed on the shorter table near the third wick that is burning.)

We honor God as Holy Spirit who lives in the Church and builds us up into the body of Christ. A church of brick and mortar is only a sign of the true Church made of living stones. We are those living stones that become the Church – the body of Christ – by the power of the Holy Spirit. The living Church is a sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit who is working to transform all of creation into the image of God. Please respond: Glory to the Holy Spirit

**All**

*Glory to the Holy Spirit!*

*Reading*

**Year A:** 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

**Year B:** Romans 8:14-17

**Year C:** Romans 5:1-5

*Responsive Prayer*

**All**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

**Leader**

We thank you, Father, for giving us love and life. We ask you to inspire us with a loving concern for all of creation. We pray to the Lord.

**All**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

**Leader**

We thank you, Son of God, for speaking words of truth with your life. We ask you to cleanse our mouths and our actions, so that all we say and do will be good and holy. We pray to the Lord.

**All**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

**Leader**

We thank you, Holy Spirit, for living in our Church community. We ask you to make us a community of love, so that all who witness our love for each other will be inspired to love you. We pray to the Lord.

**All**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit!

*Closing Prayer*

**Leader**

Three in One God, we offer our lives to you every day in the same way that we close this prayer in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# *Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

# *Picture Preference Tally*

*Directions:* Tally the scores of the group below the description on the picture.

Old person in nursing home      vs.      Pro sports team or Female talk-show host

Average-looking child      vs.      Popular celebrity

Average-looking man      vs.      Physically attractive man

Average-looking woman      vs.      Physically attractive woman

Person in a wheelchair      vs.      Olympic gold medalist

Garbage collector      vs.      Famous businessman or businesswoman

# *Family: A Sign of the Trinity*

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church (#2205) states that the Christian family is a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. The phrases below are adapted from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and reflect how the family is a sign of the Trinity.*

<p><i>The members of a family are persons equal in dignity. (CCC 2203)</i></p>	<p><i>The Christian family is a communion of persons... (CCC 2205)</i></p>
<p><i>The family is the original cell of social life. (CCC 2207)</i></p>	<p><i>The Christian family has an evangelizing and missionary task. (CCC 2205)</i></p>
<p><i>The family is a privileged community called to achieve a "sharing of thought and common deliberation by the spouses as well as their eager cooperation as parents in the children's upbringing." (CCC 2206)</i></p>	<p><i>In the procreation and education of children, the Christian family reflects the Father's work of creation. (CCC 2205)</i></p>

# *Families Are...*

(These principles are based upon the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2202-#2208.)

**All members of every family are equally lovable.**

*This makes them like the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who are equally one God.*

**Families are better when the members show their love for each other.**

*The Father, the Son, and the Spirit always show their love for each other.*

**Strong families make strong communities.**

*The strength of God's love keeps the world from being overrun by evil.*

**Family members are supposed to teach others outside of their family how to love.**

*Jesus came from the Father to show us the love of God. The Holy Spirit comes from the Father and the Son to keep reminding us of what Jesus showed us.*

**Parents must work to agree on the most important things in life and work together to teach those things to their children.**

*The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are of one mind, and they teach us the important things in life through the life of Jesus.*

**Families are creative.**

*Parents cooperate with God to create children, and parents and children together create a community of love. God is the creator of every good thing. The Father creates through the Son and in the Spirit.*



*Trinity Gospel Year B*  
*Matthew 28:16-20*

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

← Wrapper

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

← Candy

20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

← Wrapper

# *The Trinity in John*

John 1:18

No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

John 3:34-35

He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands.

John 5:18

For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

John 5:19

Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise.

John 5:21

"Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomever he wishes."

John 7:37-39

On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

John 14:15-18

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you."

John 14:26

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you."

John 15:26-27

“When the Advocate 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. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.”

John 16:13-15

“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. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

John 20:20-23

After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

# *Closing Prayer*

## *Preparation*

Light the candle in the front of the room.

## *Opening*

### **Leader**

God, who is Father, Son and Spirit, draw us close to you so that we can share in your love. Be near to us who are formed in your Trinitarian image. Remind us each day that we are called to love each other, and that there is no other way to happiness except the way of Love. We ask this, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, true and living, forever and ever. Amen.

## *Reading*

**Year A:** John 3:16-18

**Year B:** Matthew 28:16-20

**Year C:** John 16:12-16

## *Closing*

### **Leader**

The Trinity, the central mystery of our faith, is unity in diversity. We are called to be the image of the Trinity. We are called to unity with each other no matter how different we are from each other. We are the image of God when we unify across the generations. We are the image of God when we unify across racial differences. We are the image of God when we share our wealth to create economic unity. We are the image of God when persons with disabilities are welcomed among us. We only fail to be the image of God when we are exclusive, when we try to keep company only with those who are like us. God of unified diversity, deliver us from uniformity.

Please stand.

We close our prayer to the Father (invite participants to reach their hands to the sky) who is the creator of the universe; to the Son (invite participants to touch the floor) who was sent to Earth to be one of us; and to the Holy Spirit (invite participants to reach out and grasp the hands of those on either side of them) who bonds us together as a Church of love. Amen.