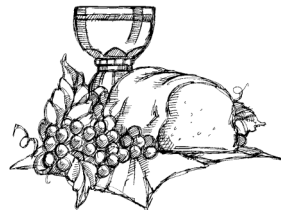


Jude Doxology

By Randy and Terry Butler

See print copy for words.

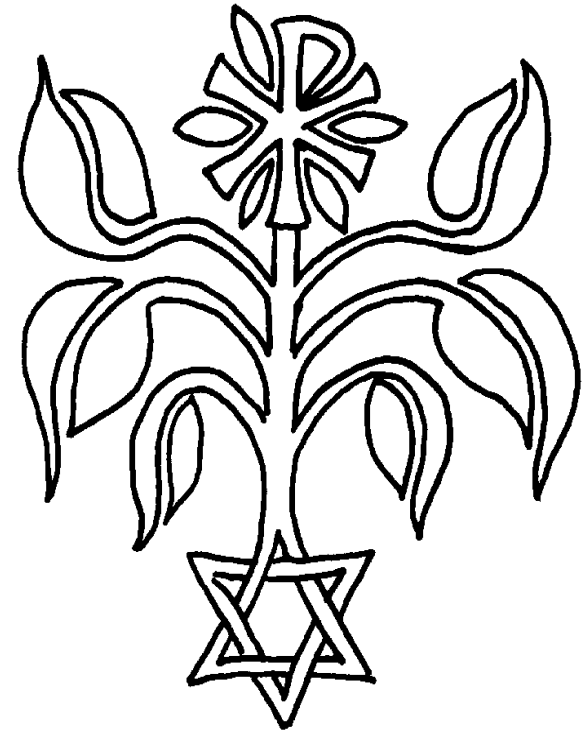


We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**

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Trinity Sunday



For there is one body and one Spirit,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God
and father of all, who is over all and
through all and in all.

— Ephesians 4:4-6 —

Old Orchard Church

June 19, 2011—10:15 to 11:50 a.m.

Celebrating the Mystery of God Triune

And the Baptism of Athos Marques

As for our present inquiry, let us believe
that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one God,
maker and ruler of the whole creation;
that Father is not Son,
nor Holy Spirit Father or Son,
but a Trinity of mutually related Persons,
and a unity of equal essence.

And let us seek to understand this truth,
praying for the help of him whom we would understand,
and to set forth what we are enabled to understand
with such careful reverence as to speak nothing unworthily,
even if we sometimes speak mistakenly.

—St. Augustine (354-430 AD)
On the Trinity



Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 14:13-14, 19-28

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6

Sermon Series: Disciplines of Disciples

“The Desire For God: Meditation (Part 2)”

Psalm 63

Ron Lutjens, pastor, preaching

Holy, Holy, Holy

With today, Trinity Sunday, we begin what is called, in the calendar of the church year, “ordinary time,” the season that goes all the way to Advent in November, when we will begin yet another year as we wait for Christ to come and establish the new heavens and the new earth. In 2011 we are reflecting on our first 30 years:

What are we as Old Orchard Church? Part of the answer is this:

Our life in community as Christians is a reflection of the community in the Godhead among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We need each other because that’s how we’re made; we’re made in the image of God who, though one God, is multiple Persons. The Son obeys the Father and loves him; the Father honors the Son and loves him; the Spirit glorifies both the Father and the Son. The Trinity is a community of Persons marked by love.

Sir Isaac Newton, a scientist (1642-1727), went to church but, according to one account, privately acknowledged that he believed the doctrine of the Trinity to be a corruption of the Bible’s teaching—as do the Jehovah’s Witnesses who come to our door. It’s true that you can’t find the word “trinity” in either Old or New Testament; but everywhere in Scripture is this mysterious insistence that there is a Father, and that he is God; that there is a Son, and that he is God; that there is a Holy Spirit, and that he is God.

Yet the Bible always claims that there’s only one God, not three. That God is triune is foundational to our faith and has been the great, ringing affirmation of the people of God down through the ages. It’s there in Scripture, not stated baldly, but nevertheless persuasively, as in Paul’s great benediction,

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Cor. 13:14)

All of us here at Old Orchard Church are joined to our Lord Jesus Christ. To what end? He himself tells us in his prayer to the Father, recorded in John 17:

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. (John 17:22-23)

Taken up into the magnificent unity of the Trinity, into the three-times-holy community of the uncreated Godhead—that’s what Christ has won for believers.

As we focus together on strengthening our faith and reaching out beyond our walls, let’s remind each other that unbelievers around us need to see us bowing before God as a great, mysterious Being who calls forth our reverence and humility, rather than presuming we’ve got him in our hip pocket. Whoever wants to commend God to others should remember who he is.

—Ron Lutjens

For Meditation

King David's great testimony to God's faithfulness in pouring his strength into us when we are feeling weak in the knees:

**On the day I called, O Lord, you answered me;
You made me bold with strength in my soul.**

(Psalm 138:3)

- 1. Read it**—Read the passage out loud at least three times before next Sunday, and try to memorize it if you can.
- 2. Think it**—Mull the text over through your week, and try to carve out some time to sit alone with your Bible open to this passage. *Remember that the core exercise in meditating on God's Word is simply to get quiet with the text in front of you—or in your head—as you try to discern the Lord speaking to you in it.*
- 3. Pray it**—As you ponder this passage and reflect on it, ask God to show you places in your relationships and responsibilities where you need to act or think with greater boldness than you presently have. Then ask for what you need.
- 4. Live it**—Apply this week, day by day, the truth of this text to the situation(s) you have identified in your life where you need boldness. It should give you much confidence.