INVOCATION
L: In the name of the Father
   and of the Son +
   and of the Holy Spirit.
G: Amen

PSALM OF THE DAY: PSALM 150
A: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
L: Praise God in his sanctuary;
G: praise him in his mighty heavens.
L: Praise him for his acts of power;
G: praise him for his surpassing greatness.
L: Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
G: praise him with the harp and lyre,
L: praise him with tambourine and dancing,
G: praise him with strings and flute,
L: praise him with the clash of cymbals,
G: praise him with resounding cymbals.
L: Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
G: Praise the LORD.
A: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THE DAY
L: Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty
   and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by
   your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving
   grace through our Lord Jesus Christ: in mercy
   cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and
   fear, we may ever worship you, one true immortal
   God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, living and
   reigning, now and forever.

READING & MEDITATION  see next page

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER
A: Our Father, who art in heaven,
   hallowed be thy name,
   thy kingdom come,
   thy will be done
   on earth as it is in heaven.
   Give us this day our daily bread;
   and forgive us our trespasses,
   as we forgive those
   who trespass against us;
   and lead us not into temptation,
   but deliver us from evil.
   For thine is the kingdom
   and the power and the glory
   forever and ever.  Amen.

VERSE OF THE DAY
A: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the
   whole earth is full of his glory. (Isaiah 6:3b
cf. NIV)

BENEDICTION
L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
   and the love of God
   and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
   be with you all.
A: Amen

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READING AND MEDITATION:

First Sunday after Pentecost - Holy Trinity:
The mystery of the Holy Trinity is beyond our comprehension. Yet it is proclaimed in Scripture and believed by Spirit-wrought hearts of faith. We believe in the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The height, depth, and breadth of our God gives us peace as we travel towards eternity.

As you study this week, seek to find the connecting theme in all the lessons by using Luther’s Four Big Barber Questions to ponder and discuss each individual reading:

1. What is God saying to me in this lesson?
2. For what does this lesson lead me to give thanks?
3. What sins does this lesson lead me to confess?
4. For what does this lesson lead me to pray?

THE GOSPEL: JOHN 16:12-15

On the night he was betrayed, perhaps even as they walked out to the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus warns his disciples that the truth is unbearable. But the Spirit of Truth would come to instruct, guide, and strengthen in the way of truth. With aching hearts they would witness the Suffering Savior fulfill his redemptive work, bringing eternal peace between God and humankind. Yet, it was not until the coming of the Holy Spirit that they would fully understand the fulfillment of promises made and kept by our Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: NUMBERS 6:22-27

The Aaronic blessing is an integral part of the Lord’s closing instructions at Mt. Sinai. The two-sided covenant of Sinai called for complete dedication of heart and mind to the almighty God of Israel. The idolatrous failures of God’s holy people were still fresh in their minds. (And surely, this would not be the last of their waywardness.) Yet, Aaron and the priests are to assure the people of their Lord’s continued faithfulness, even in the face of Israel’s unfaithfulness. How impossible for human minds to possess a full understanding of the depths of God's grace! But the Spirit comes, planting confidence in the heart that clings to the Father’s faithfulness and the eternal blessing he brings through the Son. On the road to the Promised Land or on the road of life, believers travel at peace in the Triune God’s three-fold blessing.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 5:1-5

The Judge’s declaration of innocence would mean nothing were it not for faith. In love the Father pours out his Holy Spirit to give this forgiveness, life, and salvation to souls gripped by the fear of guilt and punishment. Gifted through the Father, made accessible through the Son, established by the Holy Spirit, we are assured of eternal peace with our Triune God. Suffer though we may, the Spirit continues to strengthen hearts that live in his grace.

My takeaways:

SUPPLEMENTAL SECOND LESSON:

1 JOHN 5:5-12

Sin is rampant. The godless get ahead. Deception succeeds. The believer suffers…or so it would seem. But John sets forth testimony to the truth of the Triune God through the Holy Spirit. For the Spirit works through the means of grace, proclaiming the message of the Christ in the waters of baptism and the blood of the Lord’s Supper. This is the Spirit’s message: the Father has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

My takeaways:

What major theme(s) connect(s) all the lessons?

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