DAILY BREAD
LECTIONARY DEVOTIONS
HOLY TRINITY —YEAR B

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

Devotional material taken from Jonathan E. Schroeder, *Year A*. Jonathan E. Schroeder, ed., *Planning Christian Worship* (WELS Commission on Worship, 2010). *Visit www.BreadForBeggars.com for more resources.*

READING AND MEDITATION:

First Sunday after Pentecost - Holy Trinity: We have now entered fully into the Half Year of the Church. We never leave behind Christ and his work for us which was the center of our attention in the Half Year of Our Lord; but now the emphasis will shift to the result of his work through the Word: the work of defining faith, of creating it and inspiring its fruits in the church collectively and in each of us individually [Series B will focus more on the latter]. And so, on the Feast of the Holy Trinity we see the Word creates faith in the Holy Trinity.

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 3:1-17

Faith in the divine mystery of the Holy Trinity is a miracle beyond all other miraculous signs and wonders. It is a miracle of new birth, altogether the doing of the Spirit when and where it pleases him. Its miraculous nature is evident in the mystery of the Trinity itself and in the core message of the Spirit: We worship God who has been surrendered by his Father to die and give eternal life only to those who trust in him alone for their salvation. The author of our salvation and the author of our trust is one and the same: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. St. Bernard says that there are three great miracles that should astonish us: That the Christ Child is God and man in one person; that Mary is at the same time a mother and a virgin; that faith in the heart of man can embrace such things! The Half Year of the Church focuses on the last of the three.

My takeaways:

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 6:1-8

In bringing us into his kingdom the Holy Trinity employs both the law and the gospel. The law shows us God in all his majesty and terror; it kills us and makes us despair of our own goodness, even of the vain delusion that we enter his kingdom by our merit or decision. No, it is all his work and doing when he forgives our sins by purging that comes from his altar, ultimately the altar of the cross. Then, moved by the gospel, we both trust in him and desire to serve him in his kingdom in accord with what he will say in his Word —not on the basis of our own feelings or reasoning.

My takeaways:

SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 8:14-17

In that kingdom of the Father, created by the work of the Son and brought to us by the Spirit in the gospel, we are not fear-driven slaves. No, so great is the love described in the gospel lesson that God even makes us his adopted sons. We are brothers of Christ the King, children of God the Father, impelled to live and work and pray by the Spirit who lives and works and prays within us. As sons we strive to live not according to our old lusts and desires, but as befits those whose Father is God, whose brother is Christ, whose leader is the Spirit in the Word. Paul is not a sexist with his use of the word *sons*; he is describing a relationship not just of children but of *heirs*; and that's what sons were, heirs of the father's estate. Note too: there is no synergism in vs. 16; the Spirit bears witness in the Word *to* our spirit; our spirit receives his witness and then in Spirit-worked faith says, "Amen."

My takeaways:

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