

Hymn of the Week

June 16, 2019 • Trinity Sunday

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

Text: Richard Leach, 2001, 2002

“I wrote ‘Come, Join the Dance of Trinity’ for a contest celebrating an anniversary of Trinity on the Green, an Episcopal church in New Haven, Conn., and it was the winning hymn. It pictures the three persons of the Trinity moving in an interweaving, circular dance, a popular 20th century image often related to the theology of the Early Church Fathers. I had that in mind along with Richard Jenson’s *Systematic Theology*, which speaks of Jesus in a way that gave me the phrase, ‘Come, see the face of Trinity’ and the lines that follow. The hymn moves from creation to Incarnation, to Jesus’ death and resurrection and then to Pentecost. It names the heavy yoke of sin and death that Jesus has lifted, and invites singers to feel the freedom that follows and join their voices in praising God.” –Richard Leach

Music: KINGSFOLD, English trad., adapt. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

LEANDER, melody from *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 2001.

Topics: Biblical Names (Bethlehem), Creation, Dance, Holy Spirit, Jesus’ Crucified and Risen, Pentecost, Trinity

Scriptural Reference: Genesis 1, Matthew 11:28–30, Acts 2:1–4

Publications

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress, 2006)

Honey from the Rock (Selah, 2005)

Renewing Worship (Augsburg Fortress, 2005)

Selah Songs of Rejoicing (Selah, 2011)

Worship and Song for United Methodists (Abingdon Press, 2011)

Worship IV (GIA, 2012)

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity (anthem setting by Roy Hopp, Augsburg Fortress)

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity (anthem setting by Daniel Nelson, Neil A. Kjos Music Co.)



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Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

Come, join the dance of Trinity,
before all worlds begun—
the interweaving of the Three,
the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time
did not arise by chance,
but as the Three, in love and hope,
made room within their dance.

Come, see the face of Trinity,
newborn in Bethlehem;
then bloodied by a crown of thorns
outside Jerusalem.
The dance of Trinity is meant
for human flesh and bone;
when fear confines the dance in death,
God rolls away the stone.

Come, speak aloud of Trinity,
as wind and tongues of flame
set people free at Pentecost
to tell the Savior's name.
We know the yoke of sin and death,
our necks have worn it smooth;
go tell the world of weight and woe
that we are free to move!

Within the dance of Trinity,
before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three,
the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave,
by love and hope set free,
to shape in song this joy, this life:
the dance of Trinity.

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—
 2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;
 3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame
 4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter - weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.
 then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Jer - u - sa - lem.
 set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.
 we sing the pris - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.

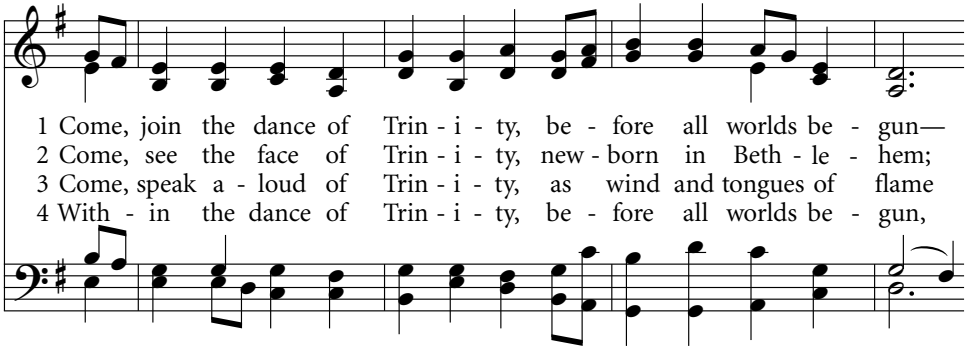


The un - i - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,
 The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;
 We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
 Let voic - es rise and in - ter - weave, by love and hope set free,

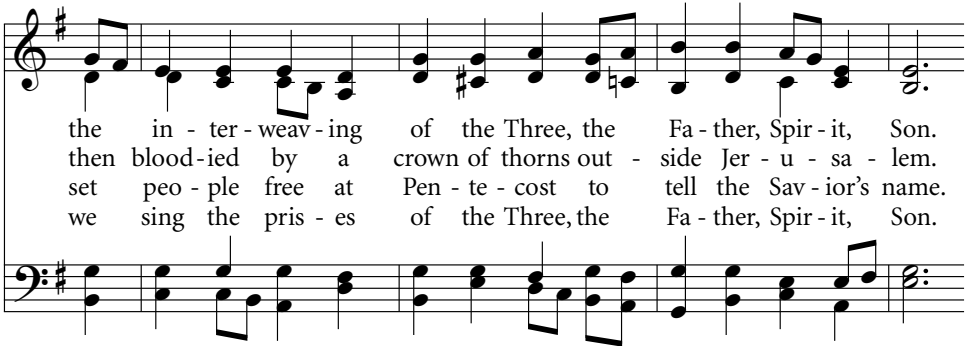


but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.
 when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.
 go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!
 to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

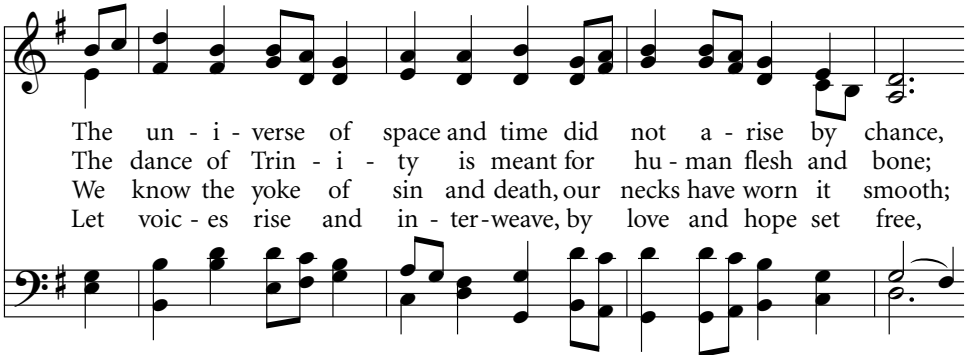
Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



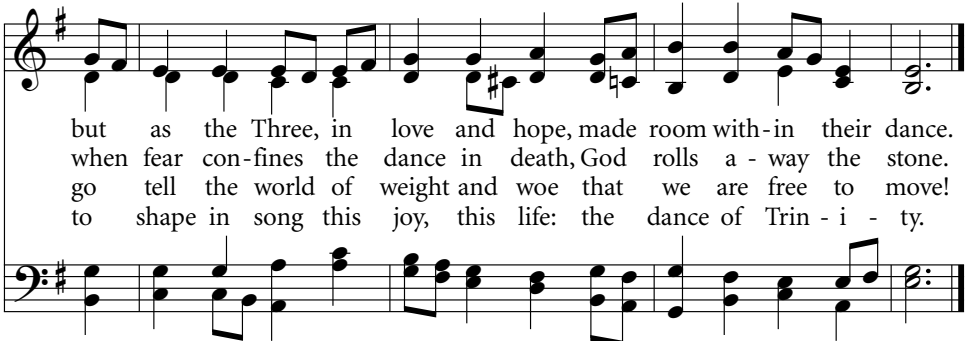
1 Come, join the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun—
 2 Come, see the face of Trin - i - ty, new - born in Beth - le - hem;
 3 Come, speak a - loud of Trin - i - ty, as wind and tongues of flame
 4 With - in the dance of Trin - i - ty, be - fore all worlds be - gun,



the in - ter - weav - ing of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.
 then blood - ied by a crown of thorns out - side Jer - u - sa - lem.
 set peo - ple free at Pen - te - cost to tell the Sav - ior's name.
 we sing the pris - es of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son.

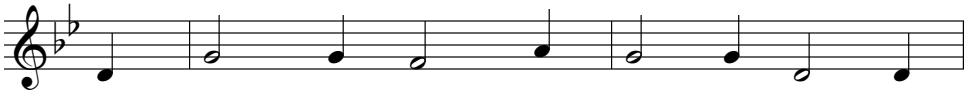


The un - i - verse of space and time did not a - rise by chance,
 The dance of Trin - i - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and bone;
 We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
 Let voic - es rise and in - ter - weave, by love and hope set free,



but as the Three, in love and hope, made room with - in their dance.
 when fear con - fines the dance in death, God rolls a - way the stone.
 go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!
 to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trin - i - ty.

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



1 Come, join the dance of Tri - ni - ty, be -
 2 Come, see the face of Tri - ni - ty, new -
 3 Come, speak a - loud of Tri - ni - ty, as
 4 With - in the dance of Tri - ni - ty, be -



fore all worlds be - gun— the in - ter - weav - ing
 born in Beth - le - hem; then blood - ied by a
 wind and tongues of flame set peo - ple free at
 fore all worlds be - gun, we sing the prais - es



of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son. The
 crown of thorns out - side Je - ru - sa - lem. The
 Pen - te - cost to tell the Sa - viour's name. We
 of the Three, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son. Let



un - i - verse of space and time did not a - rise by
 dance of Tri - ni - ty is meant for hu - man flesh and
 know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it
 voic - es rise and in - ter - weave, by love and hope set



chance, but as the Three, in love and hope, made
 bone; when fear con - fines the dance in death, God
 smooth; go tell the world of weight and woe that
 free, to shape in song this joy, this life: the



room with - in their dance.
 rolls a - way the stone.
 we are free to move!
 dance of Tri - ni - ty.

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

1 Come, join the dance of Tri - ni - ty, be -
 2 Come, see the face of Tri - ni - ty, new -
 3 Come, speak a - loud of Tri - ni - ty, as
 4 With - in the dance of Tri - ni - ty, be -

fore all worlds be - gun— the in - ter - weav - ing
 born in Beth - le - hem; then blood - ied by a
 wind and tongues of flame set peo - ple free at
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un - i - verse of space and time did not a - rise by
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 know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it
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room with - in their dance.
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 we are free to move!
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