

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – Father’s Day, June 19, 2016
Galatians 3:26, 27, The Great Awe and Joy of Fatherhood
Rev. George Ferch

Fellow-Redeemed in Christ Jesus,

- Fathers, what was your initial reaction the very first time your wife told you that you were going to be a father?
- It is no secret that we human fathers are not perfect.
- God, our heavenly Father, models joyful fatherhood.
- **The Great Awe and Joy of Fatherhood.** God is Jesus’ father. We are God’s children through faith in Jesus Christ.
- On Trinity Sunday, we confessed, *“For each person-the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit- is distinct, but the deity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is one.”*
- God the Father had his eternal Son become a human being through the virgin birth.
- What awe and joy a father has in his children.
- The awe and joy of our fatherhood does not lie in the perfect obedience of our children.
- All people are God’s children because God created them.
- We soon will once again address God in the Lord’s Prayer as “Our Father.”
- God the Father has made us fathers through Christ just as he does everything for us through Christ.
- One of the great joys of being a father is introducing our children to others, isn’t it?
- The way we father does not earn any blessings from God.
- God is our Father in heaven no matter what we do.
- We have that promise in Holy Baptism.
- I can’t just say “You aren’t my father,” or, “You aren’t my child.” In Christ that would not occur to us or to God.
- The great awe and joy of fatherhood is to have the heritage of children by God’s grace.
- We rejoice in them as the Father rejoices in Jesus his Son, and rejoices in us through faith in his Son. There is no better motivation and guide for our fatherhood as we raise our sons in Christ to be the fathers of tomorrow. Amen. <SDG>