

AT HOME SERVICE

Sunday 15th June 2025 Trinity Sunday

compiled by Alison Morgan - Local Preacher

Jesus said in Luke 18 vs. 17, 'Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter.'

I wonder why we can't all just accept God with a childlike sense of awe and wonder, accepting the mystery as a mystery, without needing to put God in a box and keeping him there.

I do like a mystery!!!

Let us pray

Lord God, in a universe that is so immense, it is easy to feel insignificant as we stand here today. Yet we know that we are precious in your sight, unique individuals loved and blessed in so many ways. We stand in awe of you, who have created all things, and we dedicate this time and all our days to your service. Accept this offering, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and worship.

Hymn

1]Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down:
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All They faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

2] Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning,
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

3] Come, almighty to deliver, let us all Thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, Never more Thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above, pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.

4] Finish then Thy new creation: pure and spotless let us be; let us see Thy great salvation, Perfectly restored in Thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Our prayers of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving

The warmth of the sun's embrace, the gentle breeze swept in on the tide, the rhythm of seasons, of new birth, death and re-creation,

All these speak clearly of your love, your power and your beauty; All are expression of your creativity and, more importantly, of yourself. As an artist shares his personality through each brush stroke, so within the myriad colours of wild flowers you share the exuberance of your love.

That we can glimpse you in creation tells us that you desire to be seen, to be found and know.

Open our eyes, Lord, as we walk through this world, feel the wind and sunshine, and see the majesty of creation unfolding before our eyes.

God of healing, God of wholeness, we bring our brokenness, our sinfulness, our fears and despair, and lay them at your feet.

God of healing, God of wholeness, we hold out hearts and hands, minds and souls to feel your touch and know the peace that only you can bring.

God of healing, God of wholeness, within this precious moment in your presence and power, grant us the faith and knowledge that, here, damaged lives are made whole.

In the ebb and flow of daily life you are present with us in our journeying;

You are the peace that calms our souls, the joy that fills our hearts, the grace that overflows, the love that draws us close.

In the ebb and flow of daily life you are present with us in our journeying.

For peace, joy, love and grace, and the warmth of your embrace,

We give you thanks. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

John 16 vs 12-15 (NIV)

'I have much more to say to you, more that you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you'.

Romans 5 vs 1-5 (NIV)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through who we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Reflection

I have previously preached on Trinity Sunday using an egg as an explanation for the three in one. The shell, the white and the yolk are all different, but still the one component, a single egg. Water.... Good old H2O, can be steam and ice and liquid, but still all from one component.

It's not for us to explain how God is Trinity - rather, to accept the mystery that God is Trinity because that is our experience of God. God reveals himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is, quite simply, who God is. God must be allowed to be God, and God will frequently surprise us.

So... if God is God, who are we?

We are made in the image of God, who reveals himself as a relational being. Relational meaning 'concerning the way in which two or more people or things are connected'.

The mystery of the Trinity is the mystery of community - a community so perfect that the three persons are truly one God, in a constant act of responding to another person's actions. It's about a mutual giving and receiving, either in the form of actions or emotions.

We too are called to community. We need one another, we affect one another. What builds up one builds up all, and what hurts one hurts all, for in the end all are connected.

We are all part of communities, large and small, local and global, and we are called to work hard at making those relationships real, making them work, because community is what God created us to be.

In the time of covid, in the communities were those who helped others, either with shopping or fetching prescriptions, or just checking they were ok. Even today, a small gesture can make a huge difference to someone in the community.

We share so much, but it's our choice whether we join in as a part of a living community of faith, genuinely interested in one another and our unity in God.

It can be hard work at relationships, and it's always a two-way street; but the more we allow God to help us make community real, the more of God we'll understand and the more of one another we'll understand.

A commitment to the God who reveals himself as a community of love is what is asked.

How do we do this? Prayer, including the courage to ask forgiveness and for the grace to forgive and be forgiven.

It needs people who accept they are not right all the time and want and work for the common good.

It needs people who accept one another's diversity and seek for harmony.

It needs people who are open to the guidance and the love of God, so that love can overflow to people around them and to the whole church. That is people who are willing to roll up their sleeves and tackle real issues and real problems, the real truth. It's the love of God, seen in the manger, then on the cross, then in the resurrection and renewal, a love that pours out into the world, which was the plan all along.

God reveals himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and seeks to draw us into the life of that community of love.

Amen

Let us pray

Lord in this shared time we offer ourselves to each other in our community We offer our understanding and insights – Not to dominate or overthrow one another But that we ourselves might be challenged and changed.

We offer our emotions and experiences –
Not in self-indulgence
But that through honesty and openness
We may find and give encouragement and comfort.

We offer our skills and talents – Not because of pride in our abilities But in joyful recognition and sharing Of your overflowing love. May you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Be once again embodied here

In our individuality and our community. Amen

Hymn

1] Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty! Early in the morning Our song shall rise to Thee; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

2] Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim
Falling down before Thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shall be.

3] Holy, holy, holy! –
Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy,
There is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4] Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name, In earth, and sky, and sea: Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Lord help us to look out for those who feel unloved and unwelcomed this week. May we extend the love of God, Who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

And may the blessing of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit remain with us all always. Amen

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