

Worship for Trinity Sunday - 30th May 2021

from Jeanne Moore

Good morning everyone. It is good to be 'with' you once again. Thank you for all your messages, letters good wishes and of course your prayers. Brian passes all on to me regularly. You continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. I miss you all.

“Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever. Give thanks to the LORD of lords: His love endures forever.” (Psalm 136: 1-3)

Suggested hymn :

THE SPLENDOUR OF THE KING,

Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice,
All the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light,
And darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice,
And trembles at His voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.*

And age to age He stands,
And time is in His hands;
Beginning and the end,
Beginning and the end.
The Godhead, three in one,
Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb,
The Lion and the Lamb.

Name above all names,
Worthy of all praise;
My heart will sing:
How great is our God.
(Repeat)

Prayer of Praise

Great and loving God,
We greet you this day with praise and wonder.
We greet you as creator,
Sovereign over space and time,
Greater than we can ever imagine.

Living and loving Christ,
We greet you this day with joy and thanksgiving,
As our Lord, our friend and our Saviour.
Mysterious and loving Spirit
We greet you this day with awe and worship,
As guide and inspiration,
Our source of strength and comfort.

Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Help us to glimpse your glory,
making it known through all we say and do,
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Reading John 3: 1-8 & 16-17

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.¹

⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?”

Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”¹

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Prayer:

Enduring God, thank you that in your very great power, your deepest nature is love.

Thank you that love is the hallmark of all you are and all you do.

Help us to love as you do, now and forever. Amen.

Reflection

Today is Trinity Sunday, when we celebrate God in three persons. One God – three persons making up the Trinity.

‘TRI’ means three ‘UNITY’ means one.

As preachers we can and do use various illustrations as we try to explain the Trinity, to show three in one. For instance I am a daughter, a mother and a grandmother. One person, three different roles.

In our Gospel reading we have Jesus speaking to Nicodemus. He was an intelligent man, knowing something of Jesus but he wanted to learn more about him. They met at night, but why is not explained. It could have been for any number of reasons but we only know it was after dark. When

Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be born again, 'born from above', born of water and of Spirit' poor Nicodemus was even more in the dark. Eventually of course Nicodemus would understand that a total transformation is needed to be able to enter into a new relationship with God. God loves us and offers new life to all who seek it. He reaches out to us in love.

It is impossible to define the Trinity. We need to see how the three persons of the Trinity relate to each other and with us and experience their love for ourselves. They do not exist as separate entities, they exist in the perfect unity of love.

God the Father 'so loved the world that He gave his only Son' so that we might know God and see the way to eternal life. God takes the initiative. Jesus the Son shows us what God and therefore love look like in human form. The Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus continuing his work in the world, working to bring the world back to God so that when we offer ourselves into the Lord's service and he says 'who shall I send',

We can answer readily 'Here I am, send me'.
So the Trinity? Well it is love.

The world was created out of love. Love took on human form, bearing it's pain, enduring death on the cross. And we are invited to receive and share that love... God so loved the world.

Explain the mystery of the Trinity? No need.

All we need to remember is-

God the Father loves us enough to give us His son.

God the Son loves us enough to live and die for us

God the Spirit loves us enough to live in us and lead us day by day.

During this Trinity Sunday find a few minutes to be still – to absorb God –Three-One.

All knowing, all loving.

Glory be to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Meditation.

O God, you are the one to whom I reach out,

mystery beyond human thinking,

love beyond our comprehending.

Yet because you are love, you have reached out to me,

joined me to Christ,

taken me into the very heart of your divine life.

You yourself have come to dwell in me.

So it is your love within me,

Reaching out to your love beyond me.

O God beyond me,

God beside me,

God within me.

Prayers.

Loving God, we thank you for the wonder of creation. Help us to love and respect all and protect all that you have made.

Loving God, we thank you for the love and fellowship of families and friends. Help us to be generous

with our time, with our love and with ourselves to care for all who are in need of our support.

Loving God we offer you our prayers, trusting that in your love you will use them and us for the

fulfilment of your purpose for your creation. Give us courage to be part of your answer to prayer and

when you ask 'Whom shall I send' free us from any fear that we may answer 'Here I am, send me'

Amen .

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn:

I, THE LORD OF SEA AND SKY,

I have heard My people cry;

All who dwell in dark and sin

My hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,

I will make their darkness bright.

I will speak My word to them.

Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.

Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go, Lord,

If You lead me;

I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,

I have borne my people's pain;

I have wept for love of them –

They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,

Give them hearts for love alone;

I will speak My word to them.

Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,

I will tend the poor and lame,

I will set a feast for them –

My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide

Till their hearts are satisfied;

I will give My life to them.

Whom shall I send?

The blessing: Now may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with and remain with us always. **Amen.**