

# The Home Sunday Worship Supplement

## Trinity Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020

*Dear Parishioners,*

Today is Trinity Sunday and the reflection is brought to you by Pamela.

Our featured home worship space this week comes to you with greetings from Wendy.

We struggle to understand the Trinity. Last week, Sue used an avocado as an analogy of the Trinity. St Patrick used a three-leaf clover. These analogies are helpful, but words or a visual image cannot fully express the mystery of the Trinity.



This beautiful image of the Trinity, called *Merciful Trinity*, is the work of Sr Caritas Müller OP, a Dominican nun. It tenderly expresses God's threefold relationship with human beings.

This is the Trinity of three divine persons who together are one God, who supports us in our suffering, responds to our needs with unfailing love and compassion, and urges us to new life and good works for the building up of community. *May you know the blessings of the Holy Trinity today,*

*Rev Clyde*



**Psalm**  
**Song of 3YM**

Blessed are you, the God of our forebears:  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed is your holy and glorious name:  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you, glorious in your holy temple:  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

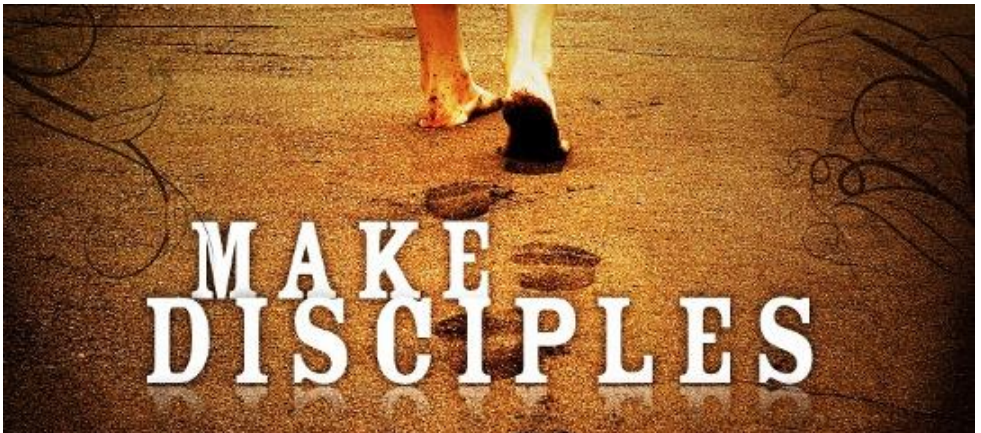
Blessed are you who behold the depths:  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom:  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you in the heights of heaven:  
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

## **Matt 28:16-20**

<sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit , <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’



## **Reflection on Matt 28:16-20 (Pamela)**

Today we are celebrating Trinity Sunday. In today's passage Matt 28:16-20 every word and detail are significant.

As with the Sermon on the Mount, the action takes place on a mountain. The disciples come at the direction of Jesus, and they respond to him in worship in the midst of doubt.

That they have doubted doesn't mean that they had no faith or that they didn't believe. Rather they gave their hearts to him but in their heads they couldn't make sense or understand what was happening.

They were of two minds. Their heads and their hearts were not aligned. Part of the experience made sense but another part did not.

The experience was real, the logic and understanding however, were unable to match the depth and reality of their experience.

Who hasn't had that kind of experience? I certainly have when I have been with my love, when I am experiencing some gorgeous part of creation like an inexplicably beautiful sunset, or when I have marvelled at the miracle of life when I have held an exquisite new born baby with all life before him or her.

I am overwhelmed and lost in the moment and my mind is at a loss to take in the richness of it all and words cannot explain it.

These are just examples of experiences that are bigger, more beautiful and beyond what our minds can fathom or make sense of.

We love and we doubt, we bask in beauty and we doubt. We hold the miracle of life and we doubt.

In these contexts, doubt is not a deficiency. It's a declaration that we have glimpsed the Divine and touched the Transcendent.

It's our recognition that the experience is greater than our words can express or our minds grasp.

The experience is what we most want. It changes and transforms our lives in ways words and explanations never will.

We worship, we doubt.

If that's true about relationships, sunsets and babies; love, beauty and new life; how can it not also be true about God?

We worship, we doubt. We experience the really real but cannot make sense of it.

Despite the Trinitarian math of three equals one and one equals three, God is beyond words, explanation or understanding.

Gregory of Nazianus (a Bishop, 329-390) said "no sooner do I conceive of one that I am illumined by the splendour of the three; no sooner do I distinguish them than I am carried back to the one."

The Trinitarian life of God is to us what water is to a fish. It is our natural habitat our environment and we are already in it.

It is ever present, pervasive and all encompassing. Searching for and seeking God as if God were absent, distant or apart from us is pointless.

Jesus begins his promise of presence with “And remember”.

“And remember I am with you always.” Remember what already is.

Today let’s not just remember the words of Jesus’ promise but open ourselves to the experience of that promise.

How might that experience change your life? What strength, hope or consolation might come with that experience? What might God do to cause you in wonder and awe to doubt?

Regardless of who you are, what you have done or left undone, what has happened in your life, where you go, or what you encounter, the promise holds.

The presence is real.

And it’s not a promise to be realised in the future. It’s a promise that has already been and continues to be fulfilled “I am with you always.”

AMEN



## Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given to us your servants grace  
by the confession of a true faith  
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity,  
and in the power of the divine majesty  
to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
and evermore defend us from all adversities,  
for you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



*Proclaim the Name: 'The Lord, the Lord, a God who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.'*  
*Exodus 34.6*

**A special Trinity Sunday prayer:**

*“Trinity of Light, Life and Love, you loved us into life and into the light of your wisdom and grace. May we, individually and as a community, grow ever closer to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and ever more welcoming of others in our community.”*

**The next Home Supplement**

will be Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2020 – Second Sunday after Pentecost.

Keep an eye on your email on Thursday.

