

Sunday 31 May 2026

Trinity Sunday

Collect:

Holy God, faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings for this week:

Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-31; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

Trinity Sunday provides an opportunity to explore some aspects of our multi-faceted God. It is a good time to reflect upon the dynamic tension between what we know of God and our tentative, partial, patently inadequate attempts to describe the indescribable. If we are not careful then we may fall into one of two traps, either despairing that we can know nothing at all of God, or engaging in the domestication of the divine, reducing God to a familiar, unchallenging formulation. Both the passages from Isaiah and Psalm 8 follow a similar format, initially outlining the cosmic nature of God, Creator of the universe, before focussing down, through creation onto humanity and, specifically, to God's relationship with us. In the Psalm, God gives some responsibility to people for the stewardship of the earth and all that lives in it. In Isaiah we hear that God is a God of justice and compassion, caring for the vulnerable, which is, implicitly, the path we are being directed to take to be good stewards of each other and the world we live in.

Both the Epistle and Gospel readings are the closing verses of their respective books, and each evokes the Triune God, the God of relationships, as they finish their message while also opening up the challenge for their readers to engage with the relational nature of the divine. We do this by taking seriously all our relationships – with family, friend and stranger, but also with the species we share the planet with and the earth we dwell upon. Living justly, compassionately, wisely and humbly as God directs us not only benefits all else, it enables others to discern and meet with God, Creator, Son and Spirit, and nourishes the Gospel so that it may live on throughout generations. The authority that Jesus gives the disciples is handed on to us, but as Paul points out, we are tasked to use that authority well, to mirror and encourage the graciousness of the Trinity in every aspect of our lives.

Almighty and eternal God,
you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:
hold us firm in this faith,
that we may know you in all your ways
and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,
who are three Persons yet one God,
now and for ever. Amen.

Readings for next week:

Hosea 5:15-6:6; Psalm 50:7-15; Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
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