

**Morning Worship for 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 10.30am**  
**Trinity Sunday**

Good morning everyone and welcome to worship in these extraordinary times when we are the church but are not in church.

Remember that God is present with us as we gather in his name, and that wherever we are, we are the body of Christ.

**Opening Prayer:-** ( from Roots)

The word of the eternal Father created us. The love of the gracious Son redeemed us. The presence of the Holy Spirit unites and empowers us. Come and worship the glorious Trinity, our God of power, love and peace. Amen

**Hymn STF 11** Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our songs shall rise to thee: holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

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)*

**Prayer:** (from Roots) O God, you are the heart of creation. Your word brings life into being; your peace gives living its fulfilment; your Spirit unites into your Son. We draw near, seeking your love in our hearts, your wisdom in our minds; your power in our lives. Receive us with grace, in the name of your Son. Forgive us for what is past and protect us from all that is to come. Amen

**We say the Lord's Prayer together.....**

**Bible Readings for today: Psalm 8 & Matthew 28 v.16-20 Acts 2 v.1-21** if you do not have Bible to hand this is at the end of Matthew's Gospel and is often called "The Great Commission" as Jesus sends his disciples out to make more disciples. He sends them out with all authority, cosmic authority, and in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Trinity as we now understand it.

**Reflection:** Take an egg in your hand, or crack it, or just imagine the egg as a symbol of the Trinity, God, Father, Son and Spirit. An egg is made up of shell, white and yoke, each unique but combine to make an egg. So, we think of God, as our opening hymn said as being in "three persons, blessed Trinity." When Jesus send his disciples out to make new disciples, firstly he sent them with all the authority of heaven and earth, in the power of the Spirit; and with the promise that because of the gift of the Holy Spirit within them he will always be with them in the mystery of faith. As we have seen so powerfully this week, having authority is one thing; knowing how to use it for the common good is another. The disciples were commissioned to share the

Gospel of Christ and they were to do so with all cosmic authority. They could trust in their message and their ability to do the task they were being asked to do, although of course at this stage “some doubted”. What a privilege and challenge it is, particularly in these current times, to know that this commission is the baton we now hold. What has been amazing about these weeks in lockdown is the creativity and passion many have shown in sharing the Gospel in word and deed; the living out of Kingdom values in small acts of kindness and sacrificial living. We are still a community of faith even though at present we can't gather in our buildings. As we were challenged at the District Pentecost service last week each of us needs to reflect and pray on what the Holy Spirit is saying to us about the church in these days and remembering that in all this God will be doing a “new thing” in and through his church on earth. May God bless us with vision to see what those new things are and will be. Amen.

**Prayers of Intercession:** On this Trinity Sunday, we pray in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit for all those still battling Covid 19 and those who are taking care of them. We pray for all who are bereaved and grieving the loss of a loved one. We pray for all key workers in their various roles. We pray for those still in isolation who are lonely or bewildered. We pray for the situation in America, that peace would come to all communities ripped apart by racism, hatred and fear. We pray that we would be strengthened to speak out against any kind of injustice we encounter. We pray for our families and our dearest friends, whom we miss profoundly and for our church family with whom we are joined in worship and prayer. Give us all strength Lord, and courage for the days ahead. Amen

**Hymn: STF 399** (also forms part of our prayers of intercession)

When deep despair casts out all light and hope is wearing thin; come Spirit, dance with gentle grace, shine through the dullness we embrace and make the colours sing; and make the colours sing.

When colour, lifestyle, creed or name cause groundless hate and fear; come Spirit weave a web of peace, that prejudice and violence cease; reveal God's purpose here; reveal God's purpose here.

When guilt and fear tear us apart and faith's a bitter thing; come Spirit dance with gentle grace, shine through the dullness we embrace and make God's colours sing; and make God's colours sing. *Michaela Youngson*

**Blessing:** The Blessing of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, be with us now and always. Amen

**Please consider this my “virtual” handshake and please stay safe and well.**

**If you are in need of anything, please call me on 01765 698288.**

**Next week's service is about proclaiming the Good News so if you are able have a blank card or postcard to hand.**