**Sunday 7th June 2020** WORSHIP AT HOME: Trinity Sunday**Matthew 28.16-20**

Welcome to our act of Worship for Trinity

Call to worship

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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,
the God of strength, love and peace.

**HYMN:** How shall I sing that majesty...

HP8, MP-, RS661, STF53

(Some of the hymn books widely used in the Wiltshire United Area)

*Prayers of Adoration and Confession*

Living God, Sovereign of the universe, in love you have made us, in love you have sustain us day by day. **We adore you.**

You are the Father who protects us and provides for us, the Son who lived and died and rose again in our midst; the Spirit, who moves amongst us with energy, like the wind. You are all these, and you are still beyond our hope, our dream. **We adore you.**

Living God as we think of your greatness, we feel small, weak, fragile. As we think of your love for ALL people, we lay before you the things that trouble and disturb us. As we think of your forgiveness and mercy, we acknowledge that we have not always been as loving as we ought!

Yet in love, in grace, in faithfulness you forgive and embrace us. Help us to experience anew the warmth of your eternal love and to know ourselves held within that love for ever. **Amen.**

**HYMN** Christ is alive let Christians sing

HP519, MP-, RS260 , STF29709

**GOSPEL Matthew 28.16-20**

**Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’**

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Reflection

At a time when our country and the world continues to live amidst pandemic, when our hearts and minds recoil in horror at the murder of African-American George Floyd in Minneapolis, to seek to grapple with a complex doctrine may appear inappropriate. But seeking to discover God has been the way by which Christians have often responded to uncertain times. So, if there is an appropriate time to focus on God’s nature then it is now!

Our Gospel lesson which concludes with that glorious promise of Christ to be with us always is timely in itself. But also included is reference to the Trinity that we with our finite minds dare to call God.

Within twenty years of the resurrection and the first Pentecost St Paul wrote the words we call “The Grace” (2 Corinthians 13:14) which refers to the three persons of the Trinity and that reminds us that from the earliest times of our faith Christians have sought to understand God in this way.

What we need to remember is that the doctrine of the Trinity does not exist to make God intelligible, that is not humanly possible. But what it does demonstrate, and this is especially important in the world of today, is how God is more perfectly one and united than we can ever possibly be. In God there is a mutual relationship of love which is more outgoing, perfect and complete than the love found in any of us.

In these fearful and uncertain times, we need to discover afresh our understanding of holy love and if we can, then all that we face will seem less dreadful and our lives will be changed for the better - permanently. Reflect on Dr Martin Luther King’s poignant words, "We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love. And when we do that, we will make of this old world a new world, for love is the only way." There is power in love. Love is the way. Love is of God, for God is love! (1 John 4) **Amen**

Prayer of Response

Day by day, dear Lord,

Of thee three things I pray:

To see thee more clearly,

To love thee more dearly,

To follow thee more nearly, day by day. **Amen**

*Richard of Chichester c1197-1253*

**HYMN** Father of heaven whose love profound…

HP685, MP, RS, STF

*Little people may prefer*

Father we adore you…

MP139, RS29,

Our Prayers

Our prayers take the first line of the hymn as a bases for each petition.

We pray to Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

*Father of heaven, whose love profound
a ransom for our souls has found:*We pray for the world, created by your love,
for its nations and governments ...Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace, that they may truly know all lives matter.

*Almighty Son, incarnate Word,
our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord:*We pray for the Church, created for your glory,
for its ministry to reflect those works of yours, for love without limit nor end.

*Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
the soul is raised from sin and death:*
We pray for families and individuals,

for the lonely, the bereaved, those unwell, especially those affected by Covid, and all who are dying.

*Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son,
Mysterious Godhead, Three in One:*
We pray for ourselves, for all those we love and those we ought to love.
**Amen**

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**HYMN** Thou whose almighty word…

HP29, MP699, RS38, STF106

Blessing

May the glory of God – Creator, Saviour and Friend – keep you, guide you and sustain you to live in love and grace.

And may the grace of the Father be with you;
may the love of the Son enfold you;
and may the peace of the Spirit comfort you,
today and always.
**Amen.**

Prayer for People Facing Great Uncertainty

God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to all who wait or work in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you. **Amen.**

Taken from A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa’ (adapted)

Rev David Coppard Superintendent @ Wiltshire United Area

Bank Chaplain @ Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton

***Our churches may not be open, but the Church is alive.***

*This is service is offered to any and all, with love and prayers.*

*Living God be with us in our pain.*

*Merciful God heal our brokenness.*

*Loving God give us hope.*

For small people – Sweets for Trinity.

Something to share and give away – an act of practical Christianity reminding that God loves all.

You will need: bowls, wooden spoons, small cutters, paper cups, tin foil, ingredients (makes approx. 25 sweets).

* Encourage children to work together to make peppermint creams which they can then give away to remind them that they can share God’s love.
* Remind the children that all the ingredients are needed and how we are encouraged to remember that all people are special, just like each member of the Trinity.
* Lightly beat one egg white in a clean, dry bowl until it’s foamy. Add a drop of lemon juice and mix. Sift in 300g icing sugar, add ½ tsp peppermint extract and mix with a wooden spoon. Roll the mixture out to 2cm thick and then cut sweets out with a small cutter. Leave to dry as long as possible.
* Write on a sticky label some appropriate words like, “These sweets are a symbol of care, because you are special to God.”
* Put some sweets in a paper cup and cover the top with tin foil and add the sticky label and give them to people.

**How shall I sing that Majesty Tune** COE FEN

which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.
thousands of thousands stand around
thy throne, O God most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
They sing because thou art their Sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heaven is but once begun
there alleluias be.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is everywhere.

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing . Tune** Truro

His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
he comes to claim the here and now,
and conquer every place and time.

Not throned above, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Saviour, with the Father reigns.

In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive! His Spirit burns
through this and every future age,
till all creation lives and learns
his joy, his justice, love and praise.

**Father of heaven, whose love profound Tune** RIVAULX

Father of heaven, whose love profound
a ransom for our souls hath found,
before thy throne we sinners bend;
to us thy pardoning love extend.

Almighty Son, Incarnate Word,
our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord,
before thy throne we sinners bend;
to us thy saving grace extend.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath
the soul is raised from sin and death,
Before thy throne we sinners bend;
to us thy quickening power extend.

Thrice Holy! Father, Spirit, Son -
mysterious Godhead, Three in One,
before thy throne we sinners bend;
grace, pardon, life to us extend.

**Father, We adore You Tune** Same Name

Lay our lives before You.
How we love You.

Jesus, We adore You.
Lay our lives before You.
How we love You.

Spirit, We adore You.
Lay our lives before You.
How we love You.

**Thou, whose almighty word** **Tune** Moscow
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and, where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

Thou who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
heal to the sick in mind,
sight to the in-ly blind,
now to all humankind,
let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight!
Move on the waters' face
bearing the gifts of grace,
and, in earth's darkest place,
let there be light!

Holy and blessèd Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide,
let there be light!

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