



**READINGS AND REFLECTION FOR TRINITY SUNDAY
SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2020**

Psalm 8

- 1 O Lord our governor, 
how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised 
out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
- 3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes, 
that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, 
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 What is man, that you should be mindful of him; 
the son of man, that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him little lower than the angels 
and crown him with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands 
and put all things under his feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen, 
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea 
and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.
- 10 O Lord our governor, 
how glorious is your name in all the world!

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This week we have included all three readings set for Holy Communion, as the Epistle and Gospel are really quite short – and the passage from Isaiah is wonderful!

Isaiah 40.12-17 + 27-end

12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand
and marked off the heavens with a span,
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure,
and weighed the mountains in scales
and the hills in a balance?

13 Who has directed the spirit of the Lord,
or as his counsellor has instructed him?

14 Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,
and who taught him the path of justice?

Who taught him knowledge,
and showed him the way of understanding?

15 Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket,
and are accounted as dust on the scales;
see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.

16 Lebanon would not provide fuel enough,
nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering.

17 All the nations are as nothing before him;
they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
'My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God'?

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.

29 He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

30 Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

31 but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

2 Corinthians 13.11-end

11 Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. 12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

13 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Matthew 28.16-20

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 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, 20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

A Collect for Trinity Sunday

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.

REFLECTION Mary-Lou writes ...

In her book *Seasons of Grace*, a wonderful Christian poet and writer called Ann Lewin writes You've probably heard the story about the church where on Trinity Sunday, , the congregation was reciting the Athanasian Creed, with its rolling statements: 'The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible and the Holy Spirit incomprehensible ...' when a crotchety voice from the pews said 'If you ask me, the whole darned thing is incomprehensible!' And that's what Trinity Sunday is all about. God IS incomprehensible, far beyond our understanding, greater by far than our imagining.

Through the last six months, we've learned once more about God's dealings with his people: how God created men and women in his own image, to live by God's laws. We've heard again how human beings chose to go their own way and brought about the loss of their closeness to God and each other. But God never gave up on them! Over and over God told his people of his unending love for them and called them back to him. Over and over people responded and then fell away. At last, God came to us in the living Word, Jesus, the ultimate gift of God's love. We've heard his teaching about the heart of living in a close relationship with God. We watched with tears flowing as the powers of evil focused on the cross, and then we rejoiced as Easter came in all God's resurrection power! We've been with Christ through the great forty days of the season, as he opened the Scriptures to his disciples who'd missed the point. We celebrated his crowning as our King as he returned to his Father in the Ascension and we waited for the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. On this great journey, we have encountered and experienced God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit – Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier. The Three in One.

With that crotchety friend in the pews, we realise we don't understand, and this side of heaven we perhaps never will! But it's all right. We don't have to define God, in fact we can't! God is greater than any words we can come up with or any images we can offer. God is always more! So don't worry about 'getting it'. Did you notice in our Gospel today how Matthew tells us the disciples 'worshipped him; but some doubted'? Those with questions and doubts still find themselves caught up in the Resurrection story of our God! We don't have to 'get it' with our heads before we can worship. Not at all, because we know a God who we can know and love, and who knows and loves each one of us as if we were God's only child. And our Saviour promises to be with us for always, whatever the future brings. I leave you with Jesus's words of promise: *I am with you always, to the end of the age.* Blessed Trinity!

(Oh, and if you'd like a quicker visual image of the Trinity, here's one Allan enjoys: think of a shamrock and always remember, God is green and comes in three parts 😊!)