

COLLECT, READINGS AND REFLECTION
12 June 2022, 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.

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!

Romans 5.1–5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

John 16.12–15

Jesus said, 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

A Reflection by Peter...

Many of us will remember some of those hymns that turn up once a year on Trinity Sunday. Often they seem like riddles without a solution: 'Three in one, and one in three...' It tends to make us think that, if God is Trinity, then presumably God knows what that means – and that's probably all we need to know! But it wasn't a bunch of mathematically minded geeks who came up with the idea of God as Trinity. It was the experience of ordinary women and men trying to come to terms with the amazing gift of life that they had received as a result of being baptized into the life and death of Jesus. Every time they tried to talk about it they realised they were missing something out – and so they kept adding and adding more and more. And that is the heart of the doctrine of the Trinity: it is our attempt to try and share the amazing wonder of life in God. We can never say everything. There will always be more, but talking of God as Trinity gives us a frame for trying to hold all the pieces together. For we do know God as the one who creates us and loves us as a mother and a father; we do know God as the one who shares our human frailty with us in Jesus; and we do know God as Spirit – as the unseen, ever present companion, bringing the grace and gifts of God to us (and holding us close to God). Today, we simply rejoice together in the stupendous, utterly glorious, inexhaustible wonder that we name God. And what is so exciting is that this God of ours is at once unimaginably vast and immense **and** immediate and intimate - and not vast one moment, and intimate the next: but both at once, all the time. This is, above, all the revelation of God as Trinity that we receive through our participation in the life of Jesus and for which we give thanks today.