

## **Sunday 26th May 2024:** Trinity Sunday

*For use by the Central Norfolk Circuit at 10.30 am or other suitable time.*



**StF 139 'Today I awake'** by John Bell (b 1949) & Graham Maule (b 1958)

### **Opening Prayer**

Think of the past week and say both 'thank you' and 'sorry' to our loving God.

**Old Testament reading set for today:** Isaiah 6 v 1 – 8

**StF 663 MP 857 'I, the Lord of Sea and Sky'** by Daniel L. Schutte (b 1947)

**Gospel Reading set for today:** John 3 v 1 – 17

### **To think about**

Look for what is being said about the three persons of God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) across the two readings. Which of the persons do you relate to more easily? How can you develop your relationship with (and experience of) the other two?

### **Message from a Circuit Friend**

Like many preachers I have found Trinity Sunday a real challenge compared to other Sunday services. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. 'God in 3 persons, blessed Trinity' as the hymn goes. Substituting 'as' instead of 'the' helps me understand a bit (in other words, thinking of '*as Trinity*' rather than '*the Trinity*'- ed), that God can be all three. However, I have to accept that the mystery of God as three persons is not solved by one simple answer. Instead, I am happy to accept that God is Majestic and Mighty but loves even me; that Jesus came into the world and saved me from my sins by dying on a cross and that Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to enable his disciples to go out and spread the good news. That is what we were celebrating last Sunday at Pentecost.

But the readings today show others who asked questions. Isaiah who had a vision, considered himself unworthy and said so to God but was absolved of his sins and used to serve God. This reading fascinates me as it was the first one I ever read in a church service and it has stuck in my memory, but also because Isaiah sought God and considered himself unworthy. Nicodemus also asked questions of Jesus. He was the one who visited Jesus by night so that it was a secret and then asked questions, recognising that Jesus had come from God. He couldn't understand all what Jesus was saying but it left a deep impression on him. We cannot fully understand and must wait to know fully what Jesus meant about the Kingdom of God. But I personally can think of God as Father and, also, as Jesus who lived a human life, plus as the Holy Spirit to enable me to do the things God asks of me – if I will only ask the Spirit to fall on me.

**Aileen Fox (Local Preacher and Senior Circuit Steward)**

**StF 395 H&P 295 'Spirit of the living God'** by Daniel Iverson (1890 – 1977) (*use reflectively*)

### **Prayers of Intercession**

We pray for our world... for the church... for our communities... for our families & friends...

**Offer to God your offertory for the week, and say the Lord's Prayer...**

**StF 11 H&P 7 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!'** by Reginald Heber (1783 – 1826)

**May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us, and all those we love, this day and always, Amen.**

**District News:** Plans are well ahead for the **District Service at Little Walsingham** on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June (2.30 pm) and the **Testimony Service for Rev Jonny in Holt** on the following Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June (3 pm). All are welcome to either or both. Although the poster for the former asks people to register their attendance, it is fine to turn up on the day. However, it would be helpful for tea numbers if you would let Jacqui, Marianne (07736 467831) or Aileen know that you are coming.