

WORSHIP FOR TRINITY SUNDAY, 6 JUNE 2020

Lighting of the Candle

https://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Pentecost.htm

We light a candle, and enjoy the flickering light,
the fragrance and warmth it creates.
But without the spark that ignites, there will be no flame.
Without the wax, the source of power, the wick will not burn.
Without the flame, there will be no fragrance, no warmth, no light.
And so with us, Lord.
You are the catalyst that ignites us, and the fuel that sustains us.
You fill us with your fragrance as you enter our lives.
You empower us to carry your flame in our hearts,
to be the fragrance, warmth, and light of your love,
in this dark world.
Bless us as we come to worship you.



On this Trinity Sunday, Peter and Julie should have been on holiday in Orkney. Offer to God our frustrations, our anger, our fear, our concerns about our friends, our concerns for the future. Offer to God the good things in life - Hannah drove down to see us on Friday. Offer everything to God - and ask him to grant us Peace.

Jubilate - Psalm 100 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUXQjvcXUmw>

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting:
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Words: Jubilate, Psalm 100

Music: Herbert Howells

The choir of Duke University Chapel



Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.
Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might, be to our God for ever and ever!
May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with us as we worship.

Hymn - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2ejO2PaTTI> -

The Salvation Army Pasadena Tabernacle Corps Band and Congregation

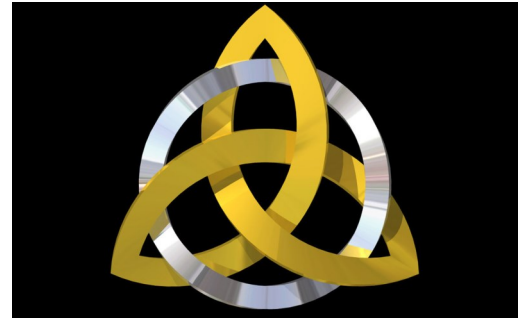
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Which wert, and art, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,
Perfect in pow'r, 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!



*Words: Reginald Heber
Music: Nicaea, John Bacchus Dykes*

We come together (wherever we are) as the family of God,
believing in God whom we experience as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Glory to the Holy and Undivided Trinity;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
Three persons and one God.
Perfectly one from before time began;
One in being and one in glory;
Dwelling in love; three persons, one God.
Incarnate Son, in suffering forsaken;
Father, giving and forgiving;
Spirit, bond in joy and pain.
Eternal Father, the Fountain of Life;
Risen Son, the Prince of Life;
Spirit of freedom, Giver of Life.
Truth, Word and Power;
Lover, Beloved and Friend;
Hope without end; Joy beyond words.
Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.



Holy, holy, holy: when our eyes have seen the Lord of hosts we echo the words of Isaiah, "Woe is me! I am doomed." We long for the fire of God's cleansing to touch our unclean lips, for our sins to be wiped out. So we meet Father, Son and Holy Spirit with confession on our lips.

Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you. We are not worthy to be called your children. We turn to you again. Have mercy on us, bring us back to yourself, as those who once were dead but now have life through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The 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.

The panel of glass (above) is a representation of the Trinity from the church of Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, in York. The window was given by the Rector, the Reverend John Walker, in 1471. see <http://www.northernvicar.co.uk/2015/06/15/york-goodramgate-holy-trinity/>

Sing - Be still for the presence of the Lord - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5S_-zhHfDA

a Songs of Praise production, but which Cathedral is it?

Bible readings - Isaiah 40.12-17,27-end - *Isaiah sees God in and through creation*

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?

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

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?

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.

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

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

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?'

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.

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

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

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.



The picture above is The Millennium Window of the Church of the Holy Trinity and St Mary, Berwick upon Tweed. It is by Ann Sotheran. At the top of the centre bay the window holds the symbol of the Trinity, drawn as a Celtic knot, endlessly intertwining. Beneath is the Tree of Life also a Celtic veneration of growing things – God in Creation. The Tree is nourished by the water of life, also the symbol of Baptism for the window which is directly above the font. The image of the church is from a sketch by Susan E. Hughes. The water becomes the River Tweed, Tweed Dock and the coastline. The main cross is Celtic, with a circle representing encirclement, protection and eternity – it stretches across all three lights of the window. In each of the four corners are the four Evangelists. In the left is St Columba with the Scriptures overlaying Iona; the right hand is St Aidan overlaying Holy Island. <http://www.northernvicar.co.uk/2012/02/03/berwick-upon-tweed-holy-trinity-and-st-mary/>

2 Corinthians 13.11-end - *Paul ends his letter with what had obviously become a normal Christian greeting, just a few years after the church had started*

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. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. 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-end - *Ascension day*

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.'

Address - our thanks to Clive for producing some thoughts you can read. You can find them at <https://www.stedsandstmatts.co.uk/worship-while-our-buildings-are-closed> - scroll down to the bottom of the page.

The Nicene Creed - we affirm our faith, and the faith of the whole church (hence 'we' not 'I')

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Anthem - I saw the Lord, John Stainer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CKe3MXvWa9g> - I chose this version, even though it has no images, because it is sung by the choir of St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, including Gareth and Harry Barham. (I wish I could say that they will earn royalties from you listening to it ...). Note the reference to railways in line 2 - Gareth always enjoyed that!

I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne,
High and lifted up, and His train filled the temple.
Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings;
With twain he covered his face,
And with twain he covered his feet,
And with twain did he fly.
And one cried unto another
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of Hosts:
The whole earth is full of his glory.
And the posts of the door moved at the voice of Him that cried,
And the House was filled with smoke.
O Trinity! O Unity!
Be present as we worship Thee,
And with the songs that angels sing
Unite the hymns of praise we bring. Amen.

Words: Isaiah 6.1-4 and Latin 10th century

Music: John Stainer, 1840-1901

Prayers of Intercession - these are from the website

http://www.thisischurch.com/prayer_worship/intercession/inter030615.htm .

I have amended them slightly. You are welcome to do the same.

On this Trinity Sunday we have come before you Lord to offer our praise and adoration. You are God the creator, giving us richly all things to enjoy. You are Christ the Saviour of the world, made flesh to set us free. You are the Spirit of truth and love, willing to dwell in us. You are holy and blessed. One God, eternal Trinity, be near to us the people formed in your image, and close to the world your love brings to life. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord we pray for your church throughout the world, for those that are thriving and those which have lost a sense of direction. Those who are coping well when buildings are closed, and those who are missing so much the Holy Places where we gather in worship. We give thanks for our churches and people, and gladly acknowledge all the gifts you have given us through its life. We ask you to open wide our hearts that we may welcome the stranger and share our faith with others. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord of the universe we praise you for your creation, you have provided humanity with everything we need for life and health. Grant that the resources of the earth may neither be hoarded by the selfish nor squandered by the foolish but that all may share your gifts. We remember all who bear the responsibility of leadership, for Her Majesty The Queen, for the Prime Minister and his government, for all our members of Parliament, for advisers, scientists, medical professionals, people involved in public health - for the media, for all of us in Society. Let your will for our world be accomplished through the decisions they make, we make, and give us a vision of peace and reconciliation, for you Lord can find a way when men and women are lost. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord we pray for peace in the world, create in us a love for peace, not peace that is absence from struggle, nor peace that is blind to injustice but peace that makes whole what now is broken. We remember those who struggle against injustice, for men and women who have to establish love's supremacy in violent and oppressive societies, and for those whom war and famine have robbed of homes, families and friends. May they be filled with your strength and wisdom and grant that where the love of humanity has failed your divine compassion may heal. We see racial divisions across our world, and ask for your forgiveness. We offer to God our own preconceptions - how often do we picture God as an Englishman, and Jesus as white Anglo-Saxon? Lord forgive us, and in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We remember those who are sick (especially our friend John Colman, remaining in hospital), those who are sad or lonely and those who are brave and patient when things are going wrong. We pray that we may be aware of your comforting presence and know that in your hands they are safe and loved. We pray for all those working through this pandemic - we continue to pray for those still serving, and sacrificing so much. We pray for those whose life is saddened by the death of loved ones, be with them in their loneliness and let them know that Jesus Christ is the light of the world a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died, remembering especially Betty Hill from St Matthew's. Thank you Lord for her life and faith. May she rest in peace, and rise in glory. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Lord we ask you to lead us into the coming week. Help us to believe that you are close by us, keep us from making mistakes and help us never to disappoint you. When we face hard decisions or difficult work, when we enjoy ourselves and have fun with others may we know that you share these times with us. Thank you God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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 - Eternal Father, strong to save - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjcSpCSUjdk>

I didn't just chose this because Julie and I should have been on a group of islands, but it seems appropriate in these difficult times.

Dismissal prayers

To God the Father, who loved us,
and made us accepted in the Beloved:
to God the Son, who loved us,
and loosed us from our sins by his own blood:
to God the Holy Spirit, who spreads the love of God
abroad in out hearts:
to the one true God be all love and all glory
for time and for eternity. **Amen.**

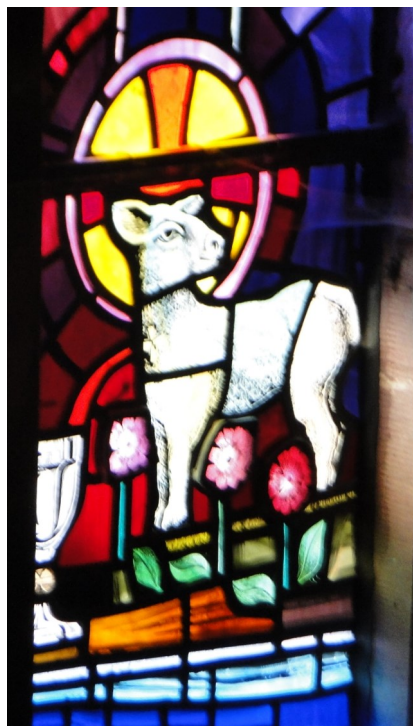
Final voluntary - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=byENkqnz33c> - Farewell to Stromness, by Peter Maxwell Davies played on a 27 string Camac harp by Lauren Scott

Do let me know if this was useful - revpeterbarham@btinternet.com - 01332 551404

Three pictures from Orkney to fill the page ... (with a Trinitarian theme)



Stones of Stenness



St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall



The Kirk on Papa Westray