June 19, 2011 Trinity Sunday

Year A

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28: 16-20

SELECTED READING AND THEME:

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Matthew 28: 16-20

THE GLORY OF GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP:

To God be all glory,

the One who visits us in three persons,

the Holy Trinity of hope and love.

For there is no place which is without you, O God,

and no time when you are not there.

For you are the beginning and the end,

the source of all that is

in the wonder of universal life.

And yet, you take us by the hand and lead us,

as the life of Christ walks our human way

and shows us that life is stronger than death.

In the Holy Spirit, we are gifted, again and again,

and are called onwards toward a future

in which we are surrounded with love and grace,

We praise and worship you, O God,

for there is no other God like you.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

Be known among us here, Holy Spirit.

Reveal to us the wider truths

about the nature of God,

expanding and enhancing this day

and all that lies ahead. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God, even as we celebrate your unity,

we know that sometimes

we forget the beauty of your three persons.

We hold to your transcendent life as Creator

and keep at a distance the challenges of Christ.

We bow before your glory

and keep your humanness away

from the reality of our own lives.

Silent reflection

Forgive us, Jesus Christ.

Guide and guard us, Holy Spirit,

and go on creating within us, Creator God.

If we are tempted to think that we know

all that there is to know, Holy Trinity,

closing ourselves off from ideas which others offer

and neglecting to search for even deeper truths:

Forgive us, Jesus Christ.

Guide and guard us, Holy Spirit,

and go on creating within us, Creator God.

This we pray in faith. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

In each person of the Trinity lies grace,

in God the loving parent, in Christ the Human One

and in the Holy Spirit who never leaves us on our own.

We are forgiven this day!

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

O God of wonder and delight,

we celebrate your life.

There is no other God like you

and we will never know all that lies within you.

We thank you that, over and over again,

we experience you in different ways,

discovering other dimensions of your greatness.

We thank you for your faithfulness to us,

we who so often fail you.

We thank you that you have the patience and kindness

to call us on and that your presence gives us hope.

Praise be to you, Holy Trinity.

For you are God over all others.

Amen.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:

A significant part of the glory of the Christian understanding of God is the Holy Trinity. It invites in us a relationship with a God who, while holding within an eternal unity, meets us in different ways as we journey through life. The wonder of the Creator in Genesis brings to us a challenge to care for the whole of creation, as well as a sense of a God who is our loving Parent. Then there is the Christ whose life powerfully demonstrates a God who is embedded in all that we face, shows us that true life overcomes death and is not confined to some distant and transcendent being. Christ carries the same authority as the Creator, as we are reminded in Matthew. Last week we remembered the God who never leaves us in the Holy Spirit, the source of wisdom inspiration and passion and all the gifts we need to live life to the full. Could we ever imagine encompassing all that God is?

OFFERTORY SENTENCE:

Let us now bring our offerings to God,

the Holy One who gives to us without end.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

O God, may our kindness be continually inspired by yours.

Receive our gifts now

and inspire us to greater generosity, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

O God, we pray that we will know you more clearly

as we try in faith to live with you.

May we truly worship you

in body, mind, heart and soul,

so that the fullness of your life

is expressed in some small way within us.

Teach us to see the world around us as you do, Holy Spirit:

So that we discern your wisdom and guidance

in all our relationships.

Help us to follow in your way, Jesus Christ:

Loving our neighbours as ourselves

and walking in courage towards those who exploit others.

Show us the beauty of your creation, God of the Universe:

That we may value everything that lives

and cherish all that you have given to us.

We pray now for your support for these people and ministries:

The people pray

May your church always bear witness

to the delight of your infinite reality, O God,

and gather together all that we know of you

into a unity which makes us one with you,

for you are the centre of everlasting life, O God. Amen.

COMMISSIONING:

Go in peace!

The holy God is with us.

BENEDICTION:

And may the glory of God be seen in every person of the Trinity:

In the majesty of the Creator. Amen.

In the faithful and costly life of the Christ. Amen

And in the flame of passionate life which is the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMNS:

Genesis 1: 1 to 2: 4a

All things bright and beautiful TiS.135 AHB.70

All things praise you, God most high TiS.148

God, who stretched the spangled heavens TiS.163 AHB.112

I sing the almighty power of God TiS.119 AHB.40

Praise with joy the worldís Creator TiS.179

Stars and planets flung in orbit TiS.186

Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, your glorious name TiS.3

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder TiS.155 SFGP.50 NJS.108

2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

Father, bless us as we go TiS.781

How deep the riches of our God TiS.167 AHB.116

May the grace of Christ our Saviour TiS.777 AHB.373

Peace with the Father, peace with Christ the Son TiS.466 AHB.402

This day God gives me TiS.642 AHB.570

Matthew 28: 16-20

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing TiS.387 SA.18

Father in heaven, grant to your children TiS.465 AHB.399

Holy God we praise your name TiS.127 AHB.86

Lord, the light of your love is shining TiS.675 SIS.580

Sent forth by Godís blessing TiS.531 SA.76

The call of God resounding TiS.460

We all believe in God who made TiS.435

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