

31st May 2026 – Morning Service

Trinity Sunday

Rev Jem Hawkins

Call to Worship – Psalm 8: 1-9 (NIV)

LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory
in the heavens.

Through the praise of children and infants
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,
to silence the foe and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars,
which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them?

You have made them a little lower than the angels
and crowned them with glory and honour.
You made them rulers over the works of your hands;
you put everything under their[g] feet:
all flocks and herds,
and the animals of the wild,
the birds in the sky,
and the fish in the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.

Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

StF 449 – Lord of creation

- 1) Lord of creation, to you be all praise!
Most mighty your working, most wondrous
your ways!
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,
And yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.
- 2) Lord of all power, I give you my will,
In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.
Your bondage is freedom; your service is song;
And, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.
- 3) Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,
Rich truth that surpasses my knowledge to find;
What eye has not seen and what ear
has not heard
Is taught by your Spirit and shines
from your word.
- 4) Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart,
Your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,
Your presence to shield me, whatever betide.
- 5) Lord of all being, I give you my all;
If e'er I disown you, I stumble and fall;
But led in your service your word to obey,
I'll walk in your freedom to the end of the way.

Jack Copley Winslow © Mrs J Tyrrell

Welcome

Greetings to all our sisters and brothers, our siblings in Christ. May we all grow in the family of God, our Creator who made all that is, seen and unseen; whose glory is witnessed in the wonder of creation; who is seen in the person of Jesus, God with us; who breathes in us the breath of life through the gracious gift of the Holy Spirit. Blessed be God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit through whom we are blessed.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, Lord of life, we worship you with our hearts and minds and beings. We praise You, maker of the heavens and of the Earth and all that is, seen and unseen. You brought the universe into existence, creating all that is. You made the dust and gases from which came forth stars and planets; immense galaxies and wondrous nebulae. You brought forth life on our planet and saw that it was good; you made humans in your image; made us to know you and care for creation.

You have blessed us, Lord of Creation - and yet we have been selfish and misused Your gifts... We have hurt You, abused creation through selfishness and greed, and hurt our fellow human beings. Forgive us, Lord, and help change our ways so that we may care and love as Jesus has shown us. May we appreciate our blessings and be thankful. We lift our prayers for our families and friends; our neighbours and siblings around the world. We place ourselves, our world and each other into Your hands. **Amen.**

StF 519 – Father I place into your hands

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| 1) Father, I place into Your hands
The things I cannot do.
Father, I place into Your hands
The things that I've been through.
Father, I place into Your hands
The way that I should go,
For I know I always can trust You. | 3) Father, we love to see Your face,
We love to hear Your voice,
Father, we love to sing Your praise
And in Your name rejoice,
Father, we love to walk with You
And in Your presence rest,
For we know we always can trust You. |
| 2) Father, I place into Your hands
My friends and family.
Father, I place into Your hands
The things that trouble me.
Father, I place into Your hands
The person I would be,
For I know I always can trust You. | 4) Father, I want to be with You
And do the things You do.
Father, I want to speak the words
That You are speaking too.
Father, I want to love the ones
That You will draw to You,
For I know that I am one with You. |

Jenny Hewer © 1975 Thankyou Music

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray for family, ourselves and your world. Guide us through the uncertainties of life, strengthen us in our frailties and equip us for all that You call us to. Thank You for our blessings and help us to appreciate them all. May we be a blessing to each other as we build Your church in 'faith, hope and charity.' We pray in the name of Jesus, Our Saviour and Friend who brings us home. **Amen.**

Reflection – Creator God

Psalm 8 sings of the powerful creativity of God who brings all of creation into being. God the Creator can be seen in the immensity of the universe. Creator God made all that is needful for life – and brought forth life, and we gaze in awe and wonder at the varied life around us, from trees hundreds of years old, to the newest life we glimpse around us and cherish in our families.

Creator God is seen all around us, if only we look! We are part of this wonderful world - even more amazing is that we are made in God's image. We are made to know God and be in community with God and each other.

I wonder if we have glimpsed something of our Creator God in the wonders of creation?

I wonder if we have experienced something of the presence of God in our lives, our families, our worship?

StF 15 – The splendour of the king

1) The splendour of the King,
clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice,
let all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light
and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at this voice,
and trembles at this voice.

2) Age to age he stands,
and time is in his hands;
beginning and the end,
beginning and the end.
The Godhead, Three in One,
Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb,
the Lion and the Lamb.

*Ch) How great is our God, sing with me,
how great is our God, and all will see
how great, how great is our God.*

*Br) Name above all names,
worthy of all praise;
my heart will sing:
how great is our God.*

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash & Jesse Reeves © 2004 worshiptogether.com songs

Reading: John 1: 1-4, 12-14 (NIV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Reflection – God With Us

In this passage from the gospel of John, we see John's understanding of who Jesus is... He is the Word who was there as part of God at the very beginning! The Word who spoke creation into being, as the Spirit hovered over the waters: *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.* (Genesis 1: 1-3)

The Word became flesh, born into humanity to be with us so that we can be reborn as children of God through Jesus: *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.* (John 1:14)

As we look to Jesus, we see The Way we should live and be in our lives. Jesus emphasised His Way of love, care and service. To be in communion with God and in community with our neighbours. To be people of prayer, faith, service and love.

This Jesus who came to be with us, who befriends all who come to Him, gave of himself completely for love of people, dying for us so that we may be born again as children of God.

Reflection – Spirit/Breath of God

Jesus taught Nicodemus that “*Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’*” (John 3: 5-7) and later, that He would send the Advocate or Holy Spirit (John 15:26).

Jesus breathed the Spirit into His disciples on the day of resurrection (John 20:22) and this Spirit was poured out on Jesus’s followers at Pentecost and still warms hearts and souls today! In the next hymn we are invited to be refreshed and revived by the Spirit of God who is poured out like a river.

StF 377 – Down the mountain

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| 1) Down the mountain the river flows,
And it brings refreshing, wherever it goes.
Through the valleys and over the fields,
The river is rushing and the river is here. | 2) The river of God is teeming with life,
And all who touch it can be revived;
And all who linger on this river's shore
Will come back thirsting for more of the Lord. |
| Ch) <i>The river of God sets our feet to dancing,
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer.
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter,
And we rejoice, for the river is here.</i> | 3) Up to the mountain we love to go,
To find the presence of the Lord;
Along the banks of the river we run,
We dance with laughter, giving praise to the Son. |

Andy Park © 1994 Vineyard Publishing

The Holy Spirit equips us to be that which God would have us be; guiding us and empowering us to follow the Way of Jesus and share His love with those around us. Jesus left this message with his disciples:

Reading: Matthew 28: 16-20 (NIV)

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’

Reflection – Trinity Sunday

With the help of the Holy Spirit, may we share the truth and love of Jesus with those around us.

Today is Trinity Sunday, where we celebrate the three-fold nature of God. One God, known to us in three persons:

God the Father	or	Creator God
God the Son		God With Us (in Jesus)
God the Holy Spirit		Breath of God

We do not need to understand how God **is**, but we can know God for ourselves. We can experience the wonder of God’s love to us and the world, we can walk with Jesus as our friend, and we can feel the Spirit of God stirring our hearts. For we belong to the family of God as beloved children of God. We call to God in prayer and love.

The Lord’s Prayer

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.**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. **Amen.**

StF 11 – Holy, Holy, Holy

- 1) 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.
- 2) Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3) Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness
hide thee,
Though the sinful human eye thy glory
may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee.
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.
- 4) 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

Reginald Heber

Benediction – 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All God's people here send their greetings.

StF 477 – Teach me to dance

- Ch) Teach me to dance to the beat of Your heart,
Teach me to move in the pow'r of Your Spirit.
Teach me to walk in the light of Your presence,
Teach me to dance to the beat of Your heart.
Teach me to love with Your heart of compassion
Teach me to trust in the word of Your promise
Teach me to hope in the day of Your coming
Teach me to dance to the beat of Your heart.*
- 2) Let all my movements express
A heart that loves to say 'Yes',
A will that leaps to obey You.
Let all my energy blaze
To see the joy in Your face
Let my whole being praise You, praise You.

- 1) You wrote the rhythm of life,
Created heaven and earth;
In You is joy without measure.
So like a child in Your sight,
I dance to see Your delight
For I was made for Your pleasure, pleasure.

Graham Kendrick © 1993 Make Way Music

Blessing

Let us dance to the beat of God's heart, through the power of God's Spirit in The Way of Jesus. Wherever we are, however we can. **Amen.**