

Trinity Sunday:

*“Amazing Creation...Everything
Belongs”*

Psalm 8; John 16:12-15; Proverbs 8:1-4,
22-31

September 15, 2019

*Rerun of June 16, 2019 ~ Trinity
Sunday*

Psalm 8 – dignity and value of humankind, God’s care and trust in us...little less than God. Our interconnectedness to all of creation and so a different perspective on ourselves and life and creation. Dominion we know is more like stewardship in God’s meaning.

John 16 – timing for embracing the truth, now! God meets us in our truth and helps us to see the consequences to come...and so give us new awareness, new choice, options.

Proverbs 8 – Ready to hear our passage...In Genesis 1, we sense God’s joy in creation. But even though God declares each day good, we often see the creation process as pretty mechanical and strangely flat... *even though* God rests every “day” and enjoys creation before going on! And creation is still unfolding... not once and done!

And, today’s proverbs passage adds a different dimension to the creative process. As told in Proverbs, Wisdom is there with God right from the beginning of time...pre-time. The

feminine energy of wisdom (which is within each of us) partners with God! Often, in the Genesis story, we skip over the words... “and then we created them in our image, male and female, in our image we created them.”

If this story is in God’s voice, who is the “we”? Some would say the other voice is the “prefiguration” of Christ present before the universe was created.

Some say, given our Proverb’s passage, this is the voice of wisdom/Sophia, often portrayed as a feminine energy of a universal energy of light and love and life that we call: God.

Wisdom is integrally present not just with but in/as Godly energy, and, in time, is incarnated in Jesus.

The wisdom of God comes in human form to walk the talk of how to be a human being...fully engaged with integrity and relationship...everyone and everything belongs!

It’s not Jesus’ maleness that God (and we!) are to center upon, it’s His wisdom brought to life in practical every day ways to live! He offers a spiritual practicum!

This presence is also seen in John 1...where Jesus is referred to as “the Word”...and seminarians know that beyond being the “living word”...Jesus is that Wisdom aspect of God at the dawn of time.

Listen to this story and let it come alongside your remembering of the Genesis story and John 1.

How is your perception of God affected?

How does it affect your understanding of how God feels about you!?!

Trinity Sunday...is a celebration of God's willingness to be present to you in just the way you need God to be present so you grow in joy, creating a new self with wisdom and delight and truth and integrity!

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With Psalm 8 prompting me, I am aware...

When we grow up, we often lose sight of the night sky—its beauty and its vastness.  
Close your eyes a moment...see it? ...feel it?

Rare is the time we take the time to even look up as we rush to the car or into and out of the store.

Rarely do we really see this fabulous lake we drive by daily or the buds on the peonies as we enter the church.

*But* most of us were taken by the stars and the moon when we were children.

It is through the openness of mind and the innocence of wonder, that children grasp, majesty, simple truths,  
hope in a new future.  
Finding that child within is our greatest defense against the way it seems to be...

Can you find the quality of your childhood still within you?

What truth does it point you toward that is your only defense against the parts of life that seek to defeat you!

Remember how powerful you are!  
Little lower than a God!

The child's imagination, a resilient nature, kindness, creative simplicity...within...

How might these aspects of who you are defeat your other inner voices, tugs, enemies...and outward ones as well?

How does this spirit of “truth” reveal the fullness possible in every moment?

God meets us in each moment, Creator, Christ, and Spirit - Light, Life, and Love...Creative Love, Redemptive Grace, Ever Presence,

to use whatever life presents or we create in any moment...to help us use each moment for our own good...no matter “the matter” of any moment.

God wastes nothing! God does not make bad stuff happen to us to teach us a lesson!

God uses even the consequences of our own choices for “good” for those who believe...in themselves within God’s embrace.

We have everything we need!  
And every thing belongs!

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So, let’s go back to that night sky...

I grew up on an old farm in the Catskill Mountains.
I remember sitting on the porch swing or walking through the fields at night and really seeing the stars.

Then, as now, the night sky always puts me in touch
with creation and the divine.

Even though the night sky is so big, and the stars so many, it doesn’t make me feel insignificant; rather it always makes me feel part of something larger than myself.
I gain a new perspective!

Yes! And Jesus says now is the time to realize you are something bigger than yourself, your problems, even your own version of the truth.

Jesus says the spirit works through the truth,
responds to what you speak and do, and declares to you

what is to come from the choices you make...the consequences of the truth you

chose to live...

so often our small letter "t" truth aligns more with our fears, sensed limitation, self-preservation.

But here's the thing:

The Spirit of Truth believes we can handle
enough capital T truth
right now to turn our lives
toward the freedom and peace
found in a living relationship with God!

And just to make sure we feel support along the way to living truth, God surrounds us with God's self!

The Trinity is our way of honoring our God who envelopes us completely...revealing "God's self" to each of us in whichever way is most helpful... whatever it takes to get your attention and influence your opinion!

Surrounds us as Creator/Father/Mother...Christ/Agitator/Redeemer...
Spirit/Advocate/big letter Truth!

The notion of Trinity is a human concoction but its intention is to honor how much God honors us! ...little lower than God and crowned with glory and honor!

That's how important we are to God and how powerful! God is already within your life and whichever aspect of presence is helpful to you is how God meets you.

God is not scared of you, does not judge you and then run away from you because of the real and true stuff of your life!

It is we who are scared of ourselves!
...our power to bring justice and bring right relationship into our own lives!
...to create a new life and a new reality, on-going!

And, in some very real ways, because God is of mystery and of the non-rational, we often keep all notion of God energy out

of our daily lives...seeking to control our lives...knowing deep inside there is no such level of control!

Jobs are lost. Roofs leak. Loved ones die.
Leaders fail to lead and followers fail to think.
Not God's doing!

God is the moon and the stars, the birds and the bees, the fauna and the whole of
the goodness of creation.
God is breath, God is life, light, living giving energy.
Possibility for new and full life.

God not only loves you, but needs you!
Wants you!
Is already within you advocating for your own well-being!

You see the thing is:
God is all encompassing, creation is on-going,
everything belongs

...every thing that happens to us and through us and because of us is part of what
we can use

to bring our lives toward deeper freedom and joy...
with God's help...with courage, wisdom, openness.

“Creator energy, Christ energy, the Holy Spirit of Truth”

are inviting us to join them in this most beautiful
and still unfolding dance of creation and love...

in the ordinary times
of our lives, in the every day living of our lives.

Will you join in God's vision for creation...the earth and all its creatures?

Will you share in God's vision for you?

Do you sense the depth of God's care for you?
Do you not sense God's in love with you?

The voice of Wisdom goes on...
And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways. Hear

instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

Those who miss me injure themselves.

Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.

A parable:

There was a farmer who owned a mule. The mule fell into the farmer's well. The farmer heard the mule braying and went to him.

After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer sympathized with the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was savable.

So, he called his neighbors together and told them what had happened. He enlisted them to help haul dirt to bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery.

Initially, the old mule was hysterical.

But as the farmer and his neighbors continued shoveling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck the mule.

It suddenly dawned on him that the every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back he should shake it off and step up! This he did, over and over again.

"Shake it off and step up...shake it off and step up...shake it off and step up!" he repeated to himself encouragingly.

NO matter how painful the farmer's intentions seemed or distressing the situation seemed, the old mule fought the panic and just kept shaking it off and stepping up.

He wasn't ignoring the dirt,
he was using it for his own good!

It wasn't long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, stepped triumphantly over the wall of the well!

What seemed like it would bury him actually was the way out!

All because of the manner in which he handled his adversity. That's life!

This is truth and you CAN bear it!

If we have a creative and curious mindset seeing life as a spiritual practicum...

if we face our problems and respond to them honestly and positively,

if we refuse to give in to panic, bitterness or self-pity,
the adversities that come along to bury us...

those very adversities usually have within them the potential to benefit...
within the completeness of God with us!

And, we can companion each other,
as our God companions us, through all life's challenges.

This is community—truth and so peace lived out in the middle of real life.
God with us each and all...all the time!

God is good all the time. Do you believe it?
If not, how can you even breathe and keep from being buried alive?

Everything and everyone belongs.

Use everything for good. You...use it!

Live under the night sky!

Take your rightful place
in the on-going dance of Creation!