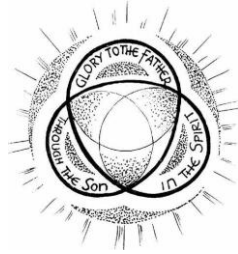


# Our Sunday Service Together

## Trinity Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> 2026



### Preparation

All: This is the day that the Lord has made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Through the brokenness of Christ, we become one body  
as one body we now gather in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to receive God's  
holy word, to pray for the needs of the world,  
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

### Our Confession

*God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness, all slander and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.*

All: Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength, and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes, as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us, hear us and help us.

*Be still for a moment in confession and in receiving God's Grace in Christ*

All: May Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Risen Lord. **Amen.**

### The opening prayer

All: The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

All: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever. Amen.

## The Psalm Psalm 8 *We say the psalm aloud*

O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!  
Your majesty above the heavens is praised out of the mouths of babes at the breast.  
You have founded a stronghold against your foes,  
that you might still the enemy and the avenger.  
When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,  
What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them;  
mere human beings, that you should seek them out?  
You have made them little lower than the angels and crown them with glory and honour.  
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands and put all things under their feet,  
all sheep and oxen, even the wild beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea  
and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.  
O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world!  
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.

## Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 13.11 to end

<sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. <sup>13</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

## Gloria

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## The Gospel Matthew 28.16-20

<sup>16</sup> Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> 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, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

## A Reflection for the day

'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Spirit', be it said as a declaration at the start of a service or in a blessing at the end, this phrase reminds us that the faith we hold to is Trinitarian.

The Trinity, a doctrine many a theologian has wrestled with and very often over complicated leaving everyone, faithful follower of Christ and theologian alike, bamboozled. However, when Jesus talks about father, son and spirit, it appears to have been received and taken to heart by the church in a far simpler manner. In Matthew the phrase is related to baptism and to the mission of the entire church. For Paul too, in writing to the Corinthians the traditional use appears to be connected with baptism and the life of a follower of Christ afterwards.

In Matthew, Jesus frequently refers to God as "Father." He has much less to say about the Holy Spirit, than Luke and John do, but when he does it is significant. The Spirit's main activity in Matthew involves initiating Jesus's life and ministry, and it would follow in the reference at the end of the gospel the activity is the same in relation to the baptised. The Spirit bring forth 'new life' in the believer and a sharing in the ongoing ministry of Jesus; the mission, the sending of God into the world to work His mercy, grace and love.

'All authority in heaven and earth' has been given to Jesus. To have authority on earth is a fully human endeavour, to have all authority in heaven is divine. In this simple phrase we are gifted the union of purpose, of heart and mind between the Father and Jesus, whom God has sent as a son into the world to animate, to embody that purpose of heart and mind and to love the world.

In coming into the world this is God with us, Emmanuel, and through the work of the cross, of us with God. In John's gospel, Jesus prays that the work he is about to undertake as Messiah, as the Christ, will bring his followers into union with the Son in the same manner as exists between the Son and the Father. A union enabled by the Spirit, who hovers over Mary and settles on Jesus at his baptism when the voice of God is heard 'this is my Son with whom I am pleased'. The Spirit whom Jesus breaths onto his disciples, who comes as a 'rushing of wind' and 'tongue of flame' at Pentecost bringing a union of God's presence in Christ, with us until the end of the age.

And whilst the Spirit bring comfort, there is also a sending out, a mission to see disciples made, baptised and taught the way to follow Jesus; to live after the fashion of the Christ, animating the love of God, the mercy of God, the grace of God – father, Son and Spirit.

We doubt ourselves, we feel without the power to bring the kingdom of God to reality on earth as in heaven. This is very natural, but as Paul has emphasised to the Corinthians our new birth is not to life in the flesh, but to that of the Spirit. Paul's constant charge to the church is to look up from our earthly possibilities and potential and see God's vision of what is possible, and to receive the empowerment of His Spirit to bring those possibilities into reality.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen!

## The Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## Prayers

God of light and power, we rejoice in your light, we live in your power, we look for your glory.

Open our eyes to perceive your presence, that we may give ourselves to you...  
*Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

We give thanks for the light that is revealed to us in the face of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, enlighten your church where vision is dim and the light of the gospel nearly gone out.

*Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

We pray for spiritual renewal, for an increase in vision and hope. We remember all who are prophets and visionaries today. *Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

Lord, direct all who are seeking to improve the world. We pray for peace-makers, for relief agencies, for all involved in scientific research, for all who hunger for righteousness and justice.

*Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

We give thanks for all who have led us to you, all who shared insight and knowledge, all who kept the lamp of faith burning. *Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

We pray for all who have entered into weakness, into sadness or into trouble this week, all who have been injured in accidents, the afflicted and perplexed, the persecuted and the forsaken.

*Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

We rejoice that the afflicted will know affection, the perplexed will know purpose, the persecuted will come to your peace, the forsaken will be enfolded in love, in the fullness of your kingdom. We pray for our loved ones departed. *Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.*

Almighty and everlasting God, who grants us the gift of new birth, empower us by your Holy Spirit to embrace our new identity in Christ, that we may be bold and faithful witnesses of your gospel. Guide us in your truth, reorient our lives towards your kingdom, and fill us with love for others, that our words and actions may draw others to your saving grace. *Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## The Collect

All: Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus  
Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now  
and for ever. Amen

*Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us*

All: 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.

## The Conclusion

All: Christ, as a light illumine and guide me this day.  
Christ, as a shield overshadow me.  
Christ under me, Christ over me;  
Christ beside me on my left and my right.  
This day be within and without me.  
Amen.