



CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
MILFORD

May 30, 2021
Trinity Sunday

REFLECTION

Celebrating the Mystery of God Triune

As for our present inquiry, let us believe
that Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are one God,
maker and ruler of the whole creation;
that Father is not Son,
nor Holy Spirit Father or Son,
but a Trinity of mutually related Persons,
and a unity of equal essence.

And let us seek to understand this truth,
praying for the help of him whom we would understand,
and to set forth what we are enabled to understand,
with such careful reverence
as to speak nothing unworthily,
even if we sometimes speak mistakenly.

— Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD), *On the Trinity*

TRINITY SUNDAY

Advent + Christmas + Epiphany + Lent + Easter + Pentecost

Gathering Hymn Holy Holy Holy

— God + calls + cleanses + speaks + strengthens + sends —

Call to Worship Ephesians 4:4-7

There is one body and one Spirit
—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**But grace was given to each one of us
according to the measure of Christ's gift.**

Invocation

♪ D Bm A D G D 7

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

A D Bm A E7 A

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

D Bm A D G D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

♪ Bm D G D G A7 D 7

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Melody:
Alto
Bass

Ev - er and aye, for - ev - er and aye, The mer - cies of the Lord en - dure for - ev - er and aye - UHHppp!

LEADER ALL LEADER ALL

1. Give thanks to God for he is good, *Ev - er and aye* Give thanks un - to the God of gods, *Ev - er and aye*

LEADER ALL LEADER ALL

Give thanks un - to the Lord of lords, *Ev - er and aye* Who does great won - ders for us all. *Ev - er and aye*. Refrain

2. Who by His wisdom made the skies—*Ev - er and aye!*
Who stretched the earth above the seas—...
To him who made great lights appear—...
The sun to rise and rule by day—...

3. Made moon and stars to rule by night—...
To him that struck the firstborn down—...
And brought the Jews from Egypt's land—...
With his own strong and outstretched arm—...

4. He split the Red Sea clean in two—...
And made the Jews to pass between—...
But drowned old Pharaoh and his host—...
Through wastelands led His people through—...

Praise Hymn Ever and Aye (Psalm 136)

Scripture Lesson Matthew 3:13-17; Exodus 3:13-15

— God + calls + cleanses + speaks + strengthens + sends —

Confession of Sin Psalms 139:23-24; 51:1-2, 10; 19:14

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

Test me and know my thoughts.

And see if there is any offensive way in me,

and lead me in the way everlasting.

Have mercy on me, O God,

according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy

blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

and cleanse me from my sin!

Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me.

**All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

Individual Confession

Absolution 1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Thanksgiving Hymn All Praise To Him

All praise to Him the God of light
Who formed the mountains by His might
All praise to Him Who names the stars
That sing His fame in skies afar
All praise to Him Who reigns in love
Who guides the galaxies above
Yet bends to hear our every prayer
With sovereign pow'r and tender care

All praise to Him Whose love is seen
In Christ the Son the servant King
Who left behind His glorious throne
To pay the ransom for His own
All praise to Him Who humbly came
To bear our sorrow sin and shame
Who lived to die Who died to rise
The all-sufficient sacrifice

All praise to Him whose power imparts
The love of God within our hearts
The Spirit of all truth and peace
The fount of joy and holiness
To Father Son and Spirit now
Our souls we lift our wills we bow
To You the Triune God we raise
With loving hearts our song of praise

Gospel Lesson John 17:13-26

Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Gloria Patri

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, Amen.

— God + calls + cleanses + speaks + strengthens + sends —

Sermon Text Proverbs 9

This is the Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Sermon Flourishing: a Study in Proverbs

Response Hymn I Bind Myself to Thee Today

— God + calls + cleanses + speaks + strengthens + sends —

Bringing Our Life to God Prayers | Collection | Profession

Prayers of the People

Collection text **MNA 1708** to **76959** and follow the prompts
or visit give.pcamna.org/to/1708/

Confession of Faith Westminster Confession of Faith (1647), 2 § 3

In the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost: the Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.

Unison

I bind un - to my - self to - day the strong name

of the Trin - i - ty, by in - vo - ca - tion

of the same, the three in one and one in three.

2 I bind this day to me for - ev - er, by power of
 3 I bind un - to my - self to - day the vir - tues
 4 I bind un - to my - self to - day the power of
 5 I bind un - to my - self the name, the strong name

faith, Christ's in - car - na - tion, his bap - tism in the
 of the star - lit heav - en, the glo - rious sun's life -
 God to hold and lead, his eye to watch, his
 of the Trin - i - ty, by in - vo - ca - tion

Jor - dan Riv - er, his cross of death for my sal -
 giv - ing ray, the white - ness of the moon at
 might to stay, his ear to hear - ken to my
 of the same, the three in one and one in

va - tion, his burst - ing from the spic - ed tomb, his
 e - ven, the flash - ing of the light - ning free, the
 need, the wis - dom of my God to teach, his
 three, of whom all na - ture has cre - a - tion, e -

rid - ing up the heaven - ly way, his com - ing at the
 whirl - ing wind's tem - pes - tuous shocks, the sta - ble earth, the
 hand to guide, his shield to ward, the Word of God to
 ter - nal Fa - ther, Spir - it, Word. Praise to the Lord of

day of doom, I bind un - to my - self to - day.
 deep salt sea, a - round the old e - ter - nal rocks.
 give me speech, his heaven - ly host to be my guard.
 my sal - va - tion, sal - va - tion is of Christ the Lord!

Communion in Christ Jesus

All Christians are invited to receive Christ's presence of bread and wine. When directed please take your bulletin, stand and form a circle around the worship space. Whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle. If you are not able to stand, please move your chair into the circle. We serve wine in the Lord's Supper, believing it to be the Biblical element used. We provide grape juice for those who, out of conscience or for health, do not drink wine. Wine is in the inner rings of the tray; juice is in the outer ring. The communion bread is gluten free.

Communion Hymn

Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord our God our maker
We belong to Him
We belong to Him
We belong to Him

Come let us eat, come let us eat
Come let us eat with Him the bread which gives us life
Come let us eat, come let us eat with Him
Let us revel in what He's done for us

Come let us worship and bow down
Let us kneel before the Lord our God our maker
We belong to Him
We belong to Him
We belong to Him

Come let us drink
Come let us drink
Come let us drink with Him the wine which gives us life
Come let us drink
Come let us drink with Him
Let us revel in what He's done for us

Prayer for those searching

Oh God, I am discovering that the more I have, the more I need to have, the more I am loved, the more I need to be loved, the more I achieve, the more I need to achieve. Nothing seems to satisfy me. Could it be, as someone once said, that “Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in thee.” Dear God, if this is true, and if as the Bible teaches there is life and life eternal in Christ alone, please guide me to Him. Open me to the reality of the One who alone can satisfy my restless heart. Give me the courage to believe that which I cannot see but can understand, feel and touch through the Word, sacraments and church family. Lord I want to believe, help my unbelief! Amen.

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Coronation Hymn

King of Kings

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Chorus

Praise the Father, Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side

Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died

Chorus

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

Chorus

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Chorus

Benediction I Peter 1:2

According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

REFLECTION

On God as Three and One

Every once in a while in my discussions someone asks how I can believe in the Trinity. My answer is always the same. I would still be an agnostic if there were no Trinity, because there would be no answers. Without the high order of personal unity and diversity as given in the Trinity, there are no answers....

Man is made in the image of God; therefore, on the side of the fact that God is a personal God the chasm stands not between God and man, but between man and all else. But on the side of God's infinity, man is as separated from God as the atom or any other infinite thing of the universe. So we have the answer to man's being infinite and yet personal.

It is not that this is the best answer to existence; it is the only answer. That is why we may hold our Christianity with intellectual integrity. The only answer for what exists is that he, the infinite-personal God, really is there.

Now we must develop the second part a bit farther—personal unity and diversity on the high order of trinity. Einstein taught that the whole material world may be reduced to electromagnetism and gravity. At the end of his life he was seeking a unity above these two, something that would unite electromagnetism and gravity, but he never found it. But what if he had found it? It would only be unity in diversity in relationship to the material world, and as such it would only be child's play. Nothing would really have been settled because the needed unity and diversity in regard to personality would not have been touched. If he had been able to bring electromagnetism and gravity together, he would not have explained the need of personal unity and diversity.

In contrast, let us think of the Nicene Creed—three Persons, one God. Rejoice that they chose the word “person.” Whether you realize it or not, that catapulted the Nicene Creed right into our century and its discussions: three Persons in existence, loving each other, and in communication with each other, before all else was.

If this were not so, we would have had a God who needed to create in order to love and communicate. In such a case, God would have needed the universe as much as the universe needed God. But God did not need to create; God does not need the universe as the universe needs him. Why? Because we have a full and true Trinity. The Persons of

the Trinity communicated with each other, and loved each other before the creation of the world. This is not only an answer to the acute philosophic need of unity in diversity, but of personal unity and diversity. The unity and diversity cannot exist before God or be behind God, because whatever is farthest back is God. But with the doctrine of the Trinity, unity and diversity is God himself—three Persons, yet one God. That is what the Trinity is, and nothing less than this.

—*He Is There And He Is Not Silent*, Francis Schaeffer (1972)

NOTES

**CHRIST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**



**JOIN US!
10:30 AM**

A POP-UP SUMMER!

MAY 23

FOWLER PAVILION

MAY 30

FOWLER PAVILION

JUNE 6

FOWLER MEMORIAL BLDG

JUNE 13

MILFORD ARTS COUNCIL

JUNE 20

FOWLER PAVILION

JUNE 27

MILFORD ARTS COUNCIL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Group – Meets tonight, May 30, 5:30-7pm at the Bishops' (21 Green Street) for a picnic and community building time.

Women's Bible Study – Every-other-Sat. 9:30-11am. Please RSVP to cpcmilford@gmail.com.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting – 7-7:50pm. Regular prayer for each other, our community, our world and the redemptive work of God is essential to our mission. Please join us as we follow a short prayer and scripture liturgy and pray for each other. [Zoom link](#) | Meeting ID: 856 4475 2681 | Passcode: 665297

Summer VBS and BBQ with Christ Pres in the Hill – Save the date to participate with our sister congregation in their outreach to their neighborhood on Saturday, July 24 (for VBS) and Wednesday, August 4 (for BBQ).

Contact us –
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