



Over these past weeks, since we cannot be in our churches we have been using the liturgy of the word as a basis for our worship. One element we have not yet included in our zoom worship is the creed. Today I have included the Nicene Creed. This is a clear statement of our faith; it outlines all we believe in as Christians and all we would want to live our lives by. It is especially appropriate today on Trinity Sunday as it sets out clearly our belief in God as the Father, God as the Son and God as the Holy Spirit.

Our reading this morning comes from the very end of Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. His words too will take us right back to our worship on a Sunday morning and he also gives us a very simple message of how, as Christians we should live our lives. Spot the words we so often say or hear on a Sunday morning, in the words of the peace and of final blessing but it may be a good while yet before we can greet one another with a holy kiss!

It is in our gospel reading that Jesus gives the authority to the disciples to go and make other disciples by baptising them, as we still do today at baptism, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. As successors of those disciples it is down to us to go forth and tell.

So, let us come together to give our thanks for the blessings of the past week, to bring our requests for the coming week and to bring our praises as we celebrate the Holy Trinity, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Collect for the day

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by 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 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 forever. Amen

A reading from the 2nd letter of Paul to the Corinthians

¹¹ 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. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ 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, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Words from Fr Rodney

Cartoon images of God often portray Him as a lonely old man on a cloud. Thanks to Jesus we know that image could not be further from the truth. Through Jesus we know that at the heart of the universe our God, Father, Son & Holy Spirit is a community of love whose love has overflowed and created everything that exists. It is especially through Jesus that we are given a glimpse of what that means, a glimpse of the love that binds them together, and creates and sustains us and everything that exists. On this Trinity Sunday we celebrate and give thanks to our God who has revealed Himself to us in history, through Jesus and by the Holy Spirit, and who calls to live in His love in the life He has given us. In our daily lives we don't need to know or understand the wonders of the world in which we live, most of us don't even understand how most of the ordinary things work that we use every day. God has shown to us through Jesus, and by the Holy Spirit, what we need to know to live in His love. On this Trinity Sunday we give thanks for our God who loves us, and who has made Himself known to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God now and forever.



Intercessions

God in three persons, blessed Trinity, on this special day, we come before you to offer our praise. You are God, the creator, giving us richly all things to enjoy. You are Christ the Saviour of the world, made flesh to set us free. You are the Spirit of truth and love, willing to dwell in us. You are holy and blessed. One God, eternal Trinity, be near to us today as we pray in faith.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity, we pray for your church throughout the world, for those that are thriving and those that have lost a sense of direction especially during this Pandemic. We ask you to open wide our hearts to share our faith with others and we continue to give thanks for the opportunity to come together to worship from our homes today.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity, we pray for peace in the world. Create in us a love for peace, neither peace that is absent from struggle, nor peace that is blind to injustice but the peace that makes whole what now is broken. We especially pray for healing for all those communities blighted by prejudice and hatred throughout the world, especially in our own country and America at this time. We also remember all who bear the responsibility of leadership, for heads of state and political advisers, we think today particularly of the leaders of the world as they and their peoples start to return slowly to a new normality; let your will for our world be accomplished through the decisions they make and give them a vision of a better way of life for everyone.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity, as we bring before you our families, friends and neighbours, we give thanks for their love and friendship and ask that you help us to care for them the best we can at the moment. Hold in your love all those we are separated from at the moment and sustain us all through this difficult period of adjustment to the challenges that face us.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity, we remember this morning those who are sick, those who are sad, lonely and anxious and all those who are vulnerable, especially any known to us today...and pray that they may be aware of your comforting presence. We continue to pray for all of those suffering in the pandemic and their loved ones and give thanks for all frontline workers as they continue to risk their lives coping with the Corona Virus and pray for their safety.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity, we remember before God, those who have died, particularly those who have perished in the pandemic and any we wish to remember today... and we also pray for all who are saddened by the death of a loved one, ... be with them in their loneliness and let them know that you are with them, the light of the world, a light which no darkness can quench.

In a moment of silence bring your own prayers to God

The Lords 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.

