

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Metcalfe
TRINITY SUNDAY MAY 26, 2024
Reverend Michael Fleming

Fr. Michael: As we gather in the name of the Triune God – Father, Son and Spirit – we acknowledge that this sacred place and the spaces we call our homes and communities lie on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabe peoples.

People: **Let us walk in the light of our being sisters and brothers of the Creator and share this good earth with celebration and hope.**

Fr. Michael: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: Ascribe to the Lord, O mighty ones; ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

People: **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to His name; worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness.**

Fr. Michael: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord is enthroned as King forever.

People: **The Lord give strength to his people; the Lord blesses his people with peace.**

Fr. Michael and People: **Alleluia!**

Fr. Michael: As community called and gathered in the name of the Trinity, we say, “Almighty God,

People: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Gathered together in the unity of Three-In- One, we say,

People: **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.**

Fr. Michael: Worthy of praise from every mouth; worthy of confession by every tongue; worthy of worship by every creature is your glorious name O Father, Son and Holy Spirit. For you created the world with grace and by your passion you saved the world. To your majesty of God ten thousand times ten thousand bow down and adore you, singing and praising You without ceasing, saying, “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of your praises. Hosanna in the highest.” (5th Century Nestorian liturgy).

Fr. Michael: Father, we praise you: through your Word and Holy Spirit you created all things. You reveal your salvation in the world by sending to us Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh. Through your Holy Spirit, you give us a share of your life and love. Fill us with the vision of your glory, that we may also serve and praise you, Father, Son and Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

All: **Amen.**

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 6: 1-8)

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

Reader: Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Reader: Our Psalm for Trinity Sunday is Psalm 29 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

All: **Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Reader: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour.

All: **Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Reader: The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon; He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

All: **Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Reader: The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

All: **Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Reader: The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore. The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

All: **Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Reader: A reading from the letter of Paul to the people in Rome (Romans 8: 12-17)

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh -

for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

Reader: For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ - if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Fr. Michael: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ according to the Blessed St. John (3: 1-17)

People: **Glory be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Fr. Michael: Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

This is the very Gospel of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

Fr. Michael: In the name of the Holy Trinity, we affirm our faith as we say,

People: **We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Reader: Lord God of Hosts, you are always asking, "Whom shall I send?" Give us ears to hear your call, patience to sit with your desire for us, faith to know that you are with us. Give each one of us the courage of Isaiah to respond, "Here am I, send me."

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts: the whole earth is filled with your glory.**

Reader: You are beautiful, Lord God, for you are holy and your Voice is all powerful. Give your people the wisdom to understand as you speak to us, to discern your will in the chaos and confusion of all the noise which surrounds us every day. Give strength to your people and bless us each day.

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: the whole earth is filled with your glory.**

Reader: Spirit of God, when we are afraid, you ask us, "Why? Are you not my adopted ones?"

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: the whole earth is filled with your glory.**

Reader: Lord Jesus, you speak to us of heavenly things even when we are far more interested in things of this earth. Speak to us in the night-times of our lives so that we might learn the Way and the Will of your Holy Spirit.

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: the whole earth is filled with your glory.**

Reader: The problems between nations, the often nasty politics of parties and ideologies, the threats and fears of people everywhere are all known to you Lord. We ask your watchful eye to save the people where there is bloodshed and hatred, remembering The Middle East, Ukraine, Haiti, Slovakia and in our own nation, the growing cancer of sectarianism and prejudice. Save us all from fear, greed, revenge and all things evil that separate us from your love. People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: the whole earth is filled with your glory.**

Reader: The dying, the sick, the lost, the lonely, the dispossessed, the persecuted are all precious in your sight. You know the names of each person and their need for your presence in their lives. Give us the strength and courage to serve all who cry out in the darkness. In our diocese, we remember all who minister among people, especially Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as Staff at Ascension House and for custodial staff serving the parishes and ministries of our diocese. We pray for St. Paul's, Renfrew Emmanuel, Arnprior and The Reverend John Stopa and for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. In our parish, we pray especially for Kelly, Liesa, Louise, Randy, Marjorie, Beth, Howard, Irene, Richard, Deb, Jeanette, Cheryl, and Zachariah and those known to you alone.

People: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; the whole earth is filled with your glory.**

Reader: Lastly, we pray for our parish on its journey into your future. Guide our hearts and hands, our minds and thoughts, our resources and our good will to enable us, at the end of the road forward, lie down in green pastures beside still waters.

People: **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen** (Paul Sauer from the Lutheran Forum adapted by RMF)

Reader: Amazing God, you have fulfilled the word of your promise and have poured out upon your church the gift of the Holy Spirit: open our hearts and renew our will. We pray to receive the fullness of your grace and power; that our lives and that of our parishes would be strengthened for the service of your kingdom to which we are being called. Kindle in us the fire of your love that we may be transformed into the image of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

All: **Amen.**

Fr. Michael: Let us speak our hearts to the Blessed Trinity this day:

People: **Gracious God, the Psalmist says that you have given human beings stewardship of all the works of your hands. All too often, we confuse this stewardship with having ownership. We then treat your creation as a resource to be used for our own needs and profit. We seldom count the cost of our failure as stewards of your good earth. Show us another way, Lord. Your cry for wisdom and understanding echoes in our homes in our workplaces, in our schools, in our courts, in our legislatures.**

People: **We confess that we don't always want to hear the cry of the broken because they make us uncomfortable and they pick away at our insensibilities. Show us another way, Lord. Merciful God, St. Paul proclaims peace, hope and grace are your gifts to us. When grief overcomes us, when anxiety holds us captive, when suffering leaves us numb with despair, we wonder how you are at work in our lives. "Where are you?" we cry and we refuse to be still and listen for your Voice calling us. Show us another way, Lord.**

Fr. Michael: Friends, hear this great news: God is always showing us another way. God's mercy is as wide and as deep as all the oceans; God's desire to love and forgive is as strong as all the hurricanes and storms that have ever blown over this earth. So, let your hearts receive and rejoice in the continuing outpouring of the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Spirit.

All: **Amen**

Fr. Michael: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: Living God, receive all that we offer you this day. Grant that in hearing your Word and responding to your Spirit, we may share in your divine life. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All: **Amen**

Fr. Michael: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Fr., Michael: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Fr. Michael: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the

light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Fr. Michael: Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me." Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ. All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever.

People: **Amen**

Fr. Michael: Gathering all thoughts and prayers into one, we pray,

People: **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.**

Fr. Michael: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People: **We, being many, are one body for we all share in the one bread.**

Fr. Michael: The gifts of God for the children of God.

People: **Thanks be to God**

Fr. Michael: Almighty and eternal God, may we who have received this eucharist worship you in all that we do and say and proclaim the glory of your majesty. We ask this in the name of the Blessed Trinity: Father, Son and Spirit.

All: **Amen**

People: **We bind unto ourselves today the strong name of the Trinity, by invocation of the same, the three in one and one in three...God be with us, Christ within us, Christ behind us, Christ before us; Christ beside us, Christ to win us, Christ to comfort and restore use. Christ beneath us, Christ above us, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in the hearts of all who love us, Christ in the mouths of friends and strangers. We bind unto ourselves this day the strong name of the Trinity, by invocation of the same, the three in one and one in three of whom all nature has been created – Eternal Father, Spirit, Word. Praise to the Lord of our salvation, salvation is from Christ the Lord. Amen (Ascribed to St. Patrick, adapted by RMF)**

Fr. Michael: **May peace be within us; may peace be around us; may peace be beside**

us; may peace be between us. May we walk peacefully with each other and with Mother Earth, Brother Moon and Sister Sun this week and all the days of our lives in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

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