

Sunday Worship

Sunday, 31 May 2026

Trinity Sunday A

Greetings and Welcome

Today, we hear how God creates, names, and blesses the world into life. Psalm 8 marvels at the fact that fragile humanity is given dignity and responsibility within creation. Paul blesses the church with the grace of Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit. In Matthew, the risen Christ sends doubting disciples to make disciples, baptising them into the life of the Trinity: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

We were created through the shared life of the Trinity, and put into this world not as one people with one voice, but as many peoples and nations. So, we begin today by greeting one another in the languages that first taught us belonging, family, memory, and home, honouring the diverse voices through which people and this land hear grace, welcome, and life.

Balka wittaberri! (Goreng Goreng)

Balka wittaberri!

בֹּקֶר טוֹב! [Boqer Tov] (Hebrew)

Boqer Tov! [boker tove] (Hebrew)

καλή μέρα! [Kalí Méra] (Greek)

Kalí méra! [Kalay merra] (Greek)

Goeie dag! (Afrikaans)

Goeie dag!

Goedemorgen! (Dutch)

Goedemorgen! (Dutch)

Guten Morgen! (German)

Guten Morgen! (German)

Noa'ia! (Rotuman)

Noa'ia! (Rotuman)

Magandang Umaga! (Filipino)

Magandang Umaga! (Filipino)

Zou San! (Cantonese)

Zou San! [jaow sun] (Cantonese)

Marhaba! (Arabic)

Marhaba! (Arabic)

Parev! (Armenian)

Parev! (Armenian)

G'day! (Australian)

G'day! (Australian)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

You would need three candles. Read each part, then light the candle.

We light a candle in the name of the Creator,
Who lit the world and breathed the breath of life for us...

We light a candle in the name of the Son,
Who saved the world and stretched out his hand to us...

We light a candle in the name of the Spirit
Who encompasses the world and blesses our souls with yearning ...

We light three lights for the trinity of love: God above us, God beside us, God
beneath us: The beginning, the end, the everlasting one.

Acknowledgement of Country

*The Spirit of the Lord hovered over this land even before human beings were
created. As we gather to worship God, let us take a moment to recognise the
Spirit that resides on this land and all the resources that God has generously
given us through it.*

For this Land

We give thanks!

For the First People who cared for this land

We give thanks!

For all nations and people who live on this land

We give thanks!

We honour the custodians
of sacred stories,
of dreamings

and the connections
with the deep earth.

*May we work together
for the restoration
of the Land
and its People.*

Call to Worship

God's imagination saw all
that is good, beautiful, and loving.

*God continues to see us as beloved
children in the divine family.*

The Word called forth
the stars in every universe.

*It speaks to us of giving ourselves
through the baptismal life.*

The Spirit moved over creation,
breathing life into all things.

*It fills us with peace and patience,
with hope and healing to share.*

Praise Hymn:

How Majestic Is Your Name

Psalm 8 says, "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens." Let us stand and sing of the Majestic Name of the Lord.

Prayer of Invocation/Adoration/Thanksgiving/Approach

Psalm 8 says: "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;" Then I look at myself and wonder why you bother with us? But God cares for us and listens to our prayers. Let us pray:

God in Three Persons, Blessed Trinity,
God of creation,

like dawn breaking over wide country and restless seas,
 may we rejoice in your goodness flowing through all life,
 close to us as every heartbeat.

Christ of wonder,
 you walked among earth and water,
 grace springing forth like rivers after rain,
 close to us in flesh and mercy.

Spirit of life,
 you moved over the waters and stirred the winds,
 breathing peace into all creation,
 close to us as every breath.

May we join all creation in worship, service, and joy,
 God in Community, Holy in One

Amen!

Praise Time:

Holy Holy Holy, Lord God Almighty

Psalm 8 says, "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty, all your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea. Please stand and sing Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty.

Prayer of Confession

We know too well our foolishness, our brokenness, our human ways of doing things. But God knows our hearts, our hopes, our desire to be made new. As we offer our prayers of confession, let us open ourselves to God, who will forgive us and give us new life. Let us pray:

Artist of all things,
 we have been created for goodness by you, but we continue to be filled with bitterness. Your Word would enable us to speak of joy to others, but we offer only judgment. The Spirit that breathes hope into us could be shared with everyone we meet, but we are tempted to hold our breath until we turn blue, rather than giving peace to those around us.

God of wonder and grace,
you have said that everything created is good, even we foolish children of
yours. With the Spirit as our sister, we know we can bring healing and hope to
those who need it most. With your Word, Jesus Christ, as our brother, we
know we can tell others of your mercy and of our love for them in every
moment.

Silence is kept

Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

By God's grace, our chaotic choices become creative grace for others;
by God's goodness, our foolishness can be transformed;
by the Spirit of our God, our lives can become new.

The good news is as true as it was on creation's first morning: Creator God is
the redeeming Word who is the Breath of life for all people, even us. So,
rejoice

Your sins are forgiven;

Thanks be to God.

The Peace

The Lord gives us strength;
The Lord blesses us with peace;
The Peace of the Risen Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements/Notices

Prayers of Intercession

*Our notices are part of our service, so we bring them to God. Our prayers
reach beyond ourselves and our congregation. God calls us to care for all
creation, so we join the World Council of Churches' prayer cycle and pray for
Angola and Mozambique.*

Include other events or incidents that you will be praying for.

Note: You can find some prayers for this week on my blog, [Prayers](#).

Let us pray for the church, for our community, and for the world.

God Three in One, God in Relationship,
you created a people for yourself.

When things went wrong, you redeemed your people through your Son.
Your Spirit continues to guide your people to continue walking in your ways.
Gather us to yourself in tenderness,
open our ears to listen to your word,
and teach us to live faithfully
as people confident of the fulfilment of your promises.

God of justice,
You call us to care, yet we often look away,
especially the people of Angola and Mozambique,
who are scarred by war, shaken by poverty,
vulnerable to floods, drought, and disease,
yet resilient in spirit and rich in community.
Our greed and inaction have helped shape systems that exploit their land,
pollute their waters and widen the gap between rich and poor.
Guide us into ways of solidarity and justice,
that we may become partners in peace,
and that Angola and Mozambique may flourish in health, dignity, and hope.

God of justice and truth,
we seek your guidance to embody your call
to do good and to seek justice.
May we grow with the courage and compassion of Christ,
and walk in the way of peace and reconciliation.
Enliven and embolden us by your Spirit to stand in solidarity with others
until all are treated with dignity and worth.
May our holy living be a foretaste
of the mercy and blessing
of the community of God.

Prayer from the newsletter of Queensland Churches Together

God of healing,
 we thank you for the hope, comfort, and strength you provide in our vulnerability. Be with all who suffer, offering your Spirit as a presence of comfort and healing. May they find peace and support in relationships and communities of safety and trust.

In the silence of our hearts, we raise to you the names of those we know and remember:

— A moment of silence —

We also bring to you those we forgot and those we do not know.

Open our eyes and give us the wisdom to see where we can bring your healing and hope in our relationships, neighbourhoods and communities as your hopeful and compassionate people.

Holy, holy, holy God,
 fill us with strength and courage,
 with discernment and compassion,
 that we may be your instruments of justice and love in this world, that we may be a blessing to others, so that it may be on earth as it is in heaven.
 Bring us into a relationship with you and with all your children, whom we join in the prayer that our Lord taught us as we say these words together:

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn/Song:

Immortal Invisible God Only Wise

Psalm 8 says, "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are humans that you are mindful of them?" We sing of the One who is immortal, invisible, and beyond all earthly wisdom, yet known through the works of creation and the lives of people. Let us prepare to listen to the Word as we sing Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise.

Do not read the titles (black or red text in bold)

Prayer of Illumination

Let us say the prayer of illumination together.

Open our eyes, gracious Lord, as we turn to your word.

We long to know you, to understand life, and to be changed.

Examine us, Lord, by the floodlight of your truth.

Amen.

Scripture

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

The Old Testament reading is from Genesis, chapter one, verse one to chapter two, verse four. Listen now for the word of God.

- 1:1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,
1:2 the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.
1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
1:4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.
1:5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
1:6 And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters."
1:7 So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.
1:8 God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.
1:9 And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

- 1:10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.
- 1:11 Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so.
- 1:12 The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.
- 1:13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.
- 1:14 And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years,
- 1:15 and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so.
- 1:16 God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars.
- 1:17 God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth,
- 1:18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.
- 1:19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.
- 1:20 And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.”
- 1:21 So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 1:22 God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.”
- 1:23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.
- 1:24 And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so.

- 1:25 God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.
- 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."
- 1:27 So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.
- 1:28 God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."
- 1:29 God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.
- 1:30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.
- 1:31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.
- 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.
- 2:2 And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.
- 2:3 So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.
- 2:4 These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

The Epistle Reading is from the second epistle to the Corinthians, chapter thirteen, verses eleven to thirteen. Listen now for the word of God.

13:11 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.

13:12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

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

For the Word of God in Scripture.

For the Word of God among us.

For the Word of God within us.

Thanks be to God

Matthew 28:16-20

The Gospel reading is from the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, chapter twenty-eight, verses sixteen to twenty. Listen now to the Word of God

28:16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

28:17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

28:18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

28:19 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,

28:20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Thank you Lord Jesus Christ.

Children's Story

Sermon:

Trinity Sunday Special: 3 for the Price of 1

Hymn/ Offering**How Shall I Call You (v1-3)****Affirmation of Faith: Adapted from Athanasian Creed**

Let us affirm our faith.

*We worship one God in Trinity,
and Trinity in Unity.*

*We do not confound the Persons,
nor do we divide the Essence.*

For the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God.

And yet, there are not three gods, but one God.

The Father is uncreated, the Son is uncreated, and the Holy Spirit is uncreated.

The Father is eternal, the Son is eternal, and the Holy Spirit is eternal.

Yet there are not three eternal beings, but one eternal being.

*In this Trinity, no one is before or after another;
no one is greater or less than another.*

All three Persons are coequal and coeternal.

Therefore, in all things, the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshipped.

Prayer for Offering

God of abundance,

like the gifts of creation, we are but stewards of all we possess. And like the gifts of creation, they are not to be hoarded, but shared with the hungry, the lonely, the lost, the struggling. As we offer our gifts, receive our thanks and praise in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Communion Song:**How Shall I Call You (v4)**

Communion

Invitation

Christ our Lord gathers into communion all who seek him, not through certainty or perfect understanding, but through grace, mercy, and peace with one another. Come, for God in three persons, continues to meet us in the unfinished and uncertain places of life, drawing us into a community in communion that reflects the shared life and love of the Trinity itself.

Narrative Of The Institution Of The Lord's Supper

Hear the words of the institution of this sacrament, as recorded by Matthew, in chapter 26 (this is from the Message Translation):

During the meal, Jesus took and blessed the bread ..., broke it, and gave it to his disciples:

Take, eat.

This is my body.

... Taking the cup and thanking God, he gave it to them:

Drink this, all of you.

This is my blood,

God's new covenant, poured out for many people
for the forgiveness of sins.

"I will not be drinking wine from this cup again until that new day when I drink with you in the kingdom of my Father."

And so, according to our Saviour's command, we set this bread and this cup apart for the holy supper, remembering his call that we must not let familiarity breed contempt, and we come to God with our prayers of thanksgiving.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God in Community be with you!

And also with you!

May the Holy Three who are One be in your hearts.

May we be filled with imagination, with words, with life itself.

Let us sing our praises to God who makes us one with all people.

We join all creation in singing glad songs to our God.

You poured your imagination into chaos,
stirring all your dreams and hopes and,
placing them on that palette called your heart,
began to paint on the blank canvas of creation,
 azure for clear morning skies,
 bright yellows for marigolds,
 deep green for grass in the meadows,
 red and orange tickling lazy sunrises.

Simply, faithfully, graciously, all
was offered to those created in your image,
 but we preferred the absence of colour in sin,
 and would paint our lives in death's greyness.

You sent prophets and artists,
singers and poets, to point
back to your beauty and art,
 but we preferred the bleak mirages
 offered by temptation and foolishness.

Finally, you appealed to your Word
to bring us the good news
of your salvific heart.

With those who see and worship,
as well as those who doubt and despair,
we offer our songs of praise to you:

*Holy, holy, holy is your, Majestic Name.
All creation joins in praising your goodness and wonder.
Hosanna in the highest!*

*Blessed is the One who is with us to the end.
Hosanna in the highest!*

Like a storm, you blew over creation's oceans;
with a gust, you blow open our shuttered souls;
with a light breath, you give us life, so now,
Breath of God, Spirit of all that exists,
touch the simple gifts of the bread and the cup
with the sacredness of your peace,
and stir us all from our fear and apathy.
The bread which is broken is filled with your strength,
so that we can go and offer freedom to the prisoner,
so that we can breathe hope into our dying neighbourhoods,
so that we can be peace for an angry world.
The cup is never drained of your grace,
so that we may silence all hatred,
so that we might put evil in the past,
so that we might renew your fragile creation.

And when we are gathered in that place
to which you will direct us at the end of time,
we will join with our siblings
in forever praising your glory, your love,
God in Community, Holy in One.

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

- ... Christ is the bread of joy, who shares food with sinners
- ... Christ is the cup of life, who revives the faint-hearted.

Let us receive what we are;
Let us become what we receive.

The body of Christ.

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray:

We thank you, God, in three persons, that in this meal you have met us again in grace, mystery, and communion. As your Spirit blazes and sets our hearts on fire, may your grace flow through us like a river through the nations, sending us into the unfinished places of the world to live as a community in communion, reflecting your life and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn After Communion

Shine Jesus Shine (v.1&2)

Psalm 8 says, "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" In the midst of the darkness shining, shine on me. Shine Jesus, Shine. Let us stand and sing.

Blessing

Go out into the world and live in hope.
Walk faithfully through the unfinished and uncertain places of life,
bearing witness to communion deeper than division,
and trusting that God is present even within the chaos.

And may God delight in the wonder of creation around you;
May Christ Jesus remain with you in doubt as well as faith;
And may the Holy Spirit draw you into the shared life and love
that is the mystery of the Trinity.

Amen.

Blessing Song

Shine Jesus Shine (v.3)