

# Church at Home - Trinity

## Sunday May 30<sup>th</sup> 2021

*Sit comfortably in a quiet place and prepare, start with a brief period of silence, turning your mind and spirit towards God. You may want to have a cross or candle in view as a focus. You may like to have a strip of paper approx. One inch wide and a piece of sticky tape or glue stick handy.*

### **Call to worship**

Holy, holy, holy is our wonderful God!

Creator! Saviour! Sustainer!

Let us worship our God of infinite mystery,  
yet who is closer to us than our own breath.

Wonderful God,

as we gaze at the miracle of your world,

intricate and interconnected,

huge in scope, microscopic in detail,

we are amazed.

We wonder that you love each one of us,

seeing us, knowing us and filling us with the breath of life.

You hold us in being moment by moment.

Help us to worship you as mystery, to hug you as friend,

and with you, to care for the whole of creation.

Amen.

### **Hymn StF362 Meekness and majesty**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJDKill-bgY>

### **Prayers**

We gather in your name, O Lord,

for you are the Lord who gives strength to your people and who blesses them  
with peace.

You are the Lord who comes close to your people and draws them into your  
heart.

You are the Lord who equips your people and calls them to serve you in the world.

You are the Lord who loves your people and invites them into the fellowship of the Holy Trinity.

You are the Lord. We worship you.

Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
we praise you for the might and the mystery of your being.

**Amen.**

We praise you for the uniqueness and the unity of your fellowship.

**Amen.**

We praise you for drawing us together and for setting us apart.

**Amen.**

We praise you in song, in silence, in the mundane and in the mystical.

We praise you.

**Amen.**

God of the Living Word,

we praise you for the gift of Scripture –

for the truths it invites us to embrace;

for the questions that echo our own;

for the conversations that puzzle and enlighten us;

for the encounters that inspire and inform us;

for the certainty, the mystery, the grace.

We praise you, today and always.

God of truth, we bring to you our sorrow for our sins.

For seeking earthly absolutes and not eternal mysteries:

**We are truly sorry.**

For rooting ourselves in the finite and not nurturing the infinite within:

**We are truly sorry.**

For saying ‘I’ much more than ‘we’ and for damaging relationships:

**We are truly sorry.**

Forgive us and strengthen us, we pray.

**For we are truly sorry.**

**Amen.**

Living God, you choose  
to save, not to judge,  
to forgive, not to condemn,  
to turn towards, not away,  
to show us your nature and not to hide.  
You allow us to know you,  
to love you and to serve you –  
and for all these things, and more, we are truly thankful.  
**Amen.**

**So Let us join together in the prayer which our Lord taught us. Our Father.....**

**Introduction to Old Testament reading.** This reading is a description of Isaiah's meeting with God, his commission to follow the Lords instruction. It is a description of the awe and mystery of God we start with a piece of music the Sanctus by Bach which also portrays this vastness and mystery

**YouTube\*\*\*Sanctus** BACH MASS IN B MINOR - KARL RICHTER Sanctus 2mins and quieter so can read over.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vw9eElfohj4>

**Reading Isaiah 6:1-8 [NIV]**

**Psalm 29 StF 809. read responsively**

**Hymn StF 443 Come let us sing of a wonderful love**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCSx7ZZ3-2I>

**Reading Gospel John3: 1-17 [The Message]**

**Address**

I wonder as practicing Christians do we think we should know more about God than we do. It is often difficult to share our knowledge of God especially sharing it with Others. When we looked at the MWoL we have said that the area of Evangelism is the part we feel we need help with. We had an initial

meeting with Rev. Martin Swan in 4 square group the other thursday and he shared his story. We have a course from the Methodist church which we are thinking of trying called **Talking of God with Others**. This may help us to increase our knowledge and give us more confidence to share our faith and stories with others.

If we come back to our knowledge of God, we can think of all the many names used to describe God [Word cloud ] Father, Jehovah, Yahweh, Lord, Master. Here are just a few. Some words will point us to the mystery of God, let us explore the mystery of the natural world –and look at this clip from Youtube clip David Attenborough -BCC Wonderful World

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYXBJmrsxZU>

Others words suggest a closeness a personal relationship with God,

We can be like Isaiah in our reading, totally awe struck by the vastness, the mystery of God- the hem of his clothing completely filling the temple, the almost frightening attendant seraphs singing ‘Holy’ at such a volume that it shakes and reverberates and yet smoke fills the temple, a sign of God’s presence, his closeness, as Isaiah is touched with a burning coal feeling total forgiveness and takes on the call to serve God in that life changing experience

Nicodemus was a Jewish Leader an expert of Jewish Law and he sensed that Jesus had a true knowledge of God and this made him inquisitive, he wanted to ask questions. However he didn’t understand the reply from Jesus that he Nicodemus needed to be born again. He goes away confused but the seed was sown because he appears in the gospel later and is with Joseph of Aramathea at Jesus’ burial bringing spices.

Both of these stories tell us of personal encounters with God, both people went on to serve him. Nicodemus didn’t get the answers he expected but he went on to search out, improve his understanding and follow Jesus. Just as we need to search

We have encounters with God through our prayers, through the support we feel, for God loves everyone of us. Don’t be afraid to ask questions, to increase your knowledge. The Tuesday chat or the course on sharing your faith may help.

What question would you like to ask Jesus?- it may be a large question or something personal- remember to bring it into your prayers- Like Nicodemus you may not get the reply you expect but your prayers will be answered.

Alpha  
Priest  
Teacher  
Deliverer  
High Spirit King of Kings  
Son Good Shepherd Holy  
Friend Master  
Servant GOD Redeemer  
Savior  
Father  
Friend  
Root of David  
Master  
Yahweh  
Abba

Our God is a God of mystery and awe as well as a God of closeness, a Friend, Supporter and Guide who loves us and with whom we can have an individual, personal relationship. Father , Son and Holy Spirit

Activity- Make a Mobius strip

***Creating a Möbius strip is incredibly easy. Simply take a piece of paper and cut it into a thin strip, say an inch or 2 wide (2.5-5 centimeters). Once you have that strip cut, simply twist one of the ends 180 degrees, or one-half twist. Then, take some tape and connect that end to the other end, creating a ring with one-half twist inside. You're now left with a Möbius strip!***

*You can best observe the principles of this shape by taking your finger and following along the sides of the strip. You'll eventually make it all the way around the shape and find your finger back where it started.*

*If you cut a Möbius strip down the center, along its full length, you're left with one larger loop with four half-twists. This leaves you with a twisted circular shape, but one that still has two sides. It's this duality that Dr. English mentioned helped him understand more complex principles.*

***On this shape you can walk on the inside and the outside***

*I Invite you to think about the strip and to imagine being small enough (ant size!) to walk on its surface. If it were a normal paper chain link, you could walk on the outside or the inside. On the Möbius strip you could walk both inside and outside without ever having to switch sides – although you might be aware that sometimes you were inside and sometimes outside.*

**•Now reflect that knowing God in mystery and in closeness is something like this – God can be both at the same time. Trace a finger along the strip as the following prayer is said.**

*God, this Möbius strip is a symbol, an image representing you.*

*We see you, we touch you, we worship you, in fleeting images –*

*in each tree and flower, .... in each other's faces..... in the support offered by others*

*And yet your hugeness, your unknown-ness, your mystery goes on for ever.*

*You are closer to us than our breath, but also infinite in mystery.*

*We praise you. Amen.*

**Hymn StF 251 Jesus Christ is waiting,**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_Khf1\\_aURfc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Khf1_aURfc)

## **Prayers of intercession**

God the Father, ground me in your being as we pray for those who flounder and struggle with the pressures of life. May they see some shape, some purpose to life and find a way to move forward. May their struggles become less tangled, and may they find calm in the chaos of their living...

God the Son, enfold us in your love as we pray for those who know little or no love, security or peace; for those who live in fear and loneliness; for those who are shrouded in pain and smothered by death; for those without family support and succour, the friendless and the homeless...

God the Holy Spirit, embolden us to share as we pray for those who have no hope, no dreams, no visions; for those who have no knowledge of you, who have not seen you, nor felt you, nor encountered you; for those without faith and trust, those seemingly lost to themselves and to you... *Silence*

God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, these are all your children; for them we pray. Remembering especially:-  
Time of silence for personal Prayers  
Amen.

## **Hymn StF 455 All my hope on God is founded**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W3ICGh02Vew>

## **Prayer**

Wonderful God,  
help us to keep adventuring with you.  
May we allow ourselves to be filled  
with visions of your awesomeness,  
and may we know your presence  
closer to us than our own breathing.  
Thank you for creating us,  
for being visible to us in Jesus,  
and for inspiring and empowering us  
with your interweaving Spirit.

Amen.

**Share the Grace.**

**Christ's is the world in which we live [fade out after first chorus]**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTfwZ3XNyEY>

Service compiled by Chris Watkins- Local Pastor  
Prayers from Roots on the Web.



Rublev Icon [‘the Icon of the Hospitality of Abraham’](#). The Holy Trinity

‘Gaza in my heart’ by Rawan Anani

