

Bulletin for Sunday **7th June 2020**

Dear Friends

A very Good Morning to you all! And special greetings on this Trinity Sunday to all at Trinity, Billingshurst on your Church Anniversary. My diary says that you were to have had an Anniversary bring and share lunch, so perhaps today as we each enjoy our lunches we can think of all our friends at Trinity, and give thanks for them.

Hymn: Now thank we all our God (Rejoice and Sing number 72)

Prayer: Eternal God

you are at the heart of creation, and still creating;
we praise you for the beauty, the wonder,
the intricate patterns and variety of your creation....
You are at the heart of human community;
we praise you for the empathy and support,
the mutual care, respect and love we see around us....
You speak to our hearts, and your power changes us
so that we never look at things in the same way again....
May we feel your presence close to us as we worship
and hear your voice speaking in the silence.... Amen

followed by The Lord's Prayer

Readings: Genesis 1:1-2:3 and Matthew 28: 16-20

Reflection: As God speaks a few words, an almost infinite variety of environments and species come into being. Colours and sounds and smells, all good and all as God imagined and planned. Yet there is a complexity to this creation, which is masked by the very ordered, controlled way in which it is described. The animals and birds aren't really independent of the plants and trees - even if their creation is described on a different day. Food chains, from plants to animals, from prey to predators, are obvious, whether they are mentioned or not. All of creation is interdependent in the web of life, and that web is complex and carefully balanced by its own biodiversity. We are becoming aware that when we lose species, when they become unnecessarily extinct, it damages the web, leaves a gap in the pattern, hurts other species in unexpected ways.

God as three in one - as Trinity - is also complex and all about relationships. We can get tied up in consideration of the three 'persons' of the Trinity - but what of the web of connections between them? Relationship is part of the essence, the nature, of a Trinitarian God... and it's part of our nature too. Made in the image of God, we show the same features of diversity and relationship,

connected to each other in communities of many sorts, from families to nations. Each of us is indispensable if the web is to remain unbroken, and any sort of hurt to one, damages the whole. "God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good." Amen

Hymn: Eternal God, your love's tremendous glory (R&S 33)

Prayer: God of compassion
where people live with injustice and prejudice -
amidst the fear and the anger,
may both hope and the seeds of change be sown.
With the environment desperately in need -
may there be scientists, farmers and conservationists who care.
We hold out to you:
those struggling with grief, with illness, with exhaustion, with despair...
and those we especially care about... and worry about...
May we be aware and in awe of the complexity -
the intentional diversity - of your creative intentions...
and their foundations in love.
Amen

Hymn: Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us (R&S 543)

May we be aware of the abundance, the diversity,
the life in the world around us - and rejoice in it!
and may the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us and with all those we love
this week and every week. Amen

Good news from Terr, whose brother is back in the UK after finally managing to get a repatriation flight from South Africa.

Please let me know of any news or prayer requests.
Every blessing for the week ahead.

Anne Lewitt