**First Presbyterian Church, Tucumcari**

*The Church With the Holy Spirit Window*

**Sunday, June 7, 2020 Trinity Sunday**

**Rev. Amy Pospichal, Pastor Accompanist, Marjorie McKenzie**

**BH 455 All Creatures of Our God and King**

**BH 403 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**RH 11 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!**

**Call to Worship (please see bulletin)**

**Prayer of the Day**

We celebrate and worship you, almighty and mysterious, all-powerful Lord! Your fingerprints of grace and beauty are all over your Creation! We bear your fingerprints as your people. Remind us again of who we are, reflections of your own mystery as your church. Amen.

**Call to Confession**Friends, we are made in the image of God, but that does not make us God. Though we often prefer to pretend we are perfect, when we ignore our sin we deceive only ourselves and there sis no room for God’s truth to dwell in us. When we confess our sin, we experience the grace and mercy of God in the here and now. Before God, with the people of God, let us confess to our faults and our failings. Let us pray.

**Prayer of Confession (please see bulletin)**

**Assurance of Pardon**

In the beginning, God planted goodness deep within creation—and through the grace of God, poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, we are able to live as the Body of Christ, showing that goodness to the world.

Friends, live and believe this good news:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Psalm 8:1-9 (please see bulletin)**

**Presentation of Offering and Offertory**

**Time out for Teaching: Logos**

What is a “logo?”

Corporations use logos a lot to convey something about who they are and something of the essence of their existence and purpose. Did you know that the company, Amazon, has a logo with the name, and then below it, it looks like a smile? Do you know what that smile actually is? It’s an arrow, that points from the letter A to the letter Z in Amazon. It means that they have everything from A to Z.

Ancient Christians had many logos to signify doctrines and stories of Scripture. Of interest to us today is the Trinity. A mystery to us, yet all-embracing, for it is God in Three Persons. So I want to show you some Trinity symbols and explore together what they say about this holy mystery.

**Prayer for Illumination**

Most Holy Mystery,  
open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts  
as your scripture is read and your Word proclaimed,  
that we might gain a glimpse of your joyous life  
and join the dance of Father, Spirit, and Son  
now and always.  
Amen.

**2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

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

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

**Gospel Matthew 28:16-20**

16Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

1In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2the 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. 3Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. **4And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.**

6And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” **7So 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. 8God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.**

9And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. **10God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.**11Then 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. **12The 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. 13And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.**

14And 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, 15and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. **16God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night — and the stars. 17God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, 18to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. 19And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.**

20And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” 21So 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. 22God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” 23And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.**

24And 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. **25God 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.**

26Then 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.” **27So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.**28God 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.” 29God 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. 30And 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. 31God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.**

**2:1Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2And 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. 3So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.**

**4These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.**

**Sermon: “Sing the Lord’s Song” Rev. Amy Pospichal**

Many years ago, it began to dawn on me that in my weird collection of music on CD and records, there are a lot by musicians who are playing as trios. By this I mean, rock, jazz, funk, etc, music groups who are just three persons. Usually, it’s highly-accomplished musicians who can do this. There is often a percussionist like a drummer. A bassist and a guitarist. Or instead of a guitarist, a piano…Whichever way, I have wondered about the way the music flows with trios. They seem to have a complexity to them that is unique. Oftentimes, it seems like each one helps the other, like sometimes the bass player chimes in with the drummer to make beats. The guitar and bass sometimes work together. Sometimes one instrument stands alone for a solo, backed by two giving it support. Something about a threesome of musicians seems to bring out their best.

I find that the interweaving of a music trio is a little like the movement of the Holy Trinity. God in Three Persons, Three in One, One in Three. The ancient Christian symbol called the “Shield of the Trinity” shows a three-pointed shield with the word “God” in the center. Father, Son and Holy Spirit surround the word “God,” but between them it says, “Father is not the Son, is not the Holy Spirit is not the Father.” But the Father, Son and Spirit all point to the center with the word “Is.” It means that the persons of the Trinity are separate and distinct persons, playing their music, and yet they share the essence and identity of God.

Trinity Sunday marks the end of the Christian Festival Season, which began early in December with Advent. Trinity Sunday is the only special day in our church calendar that marks a theological idea, rather than a special single story from the Bible. So, it is a celebration of the development of tradition. It’s a crowning touch on the Reformed faith, which has a lot to do with our understanding of the Trinity, but also how it includes us. For the Trinity is not a static figure, but a movement of God, a Fellowship in whose image we are also made.

This is evident in the extensive reading in Genesis today. The Trinity was not a manufactured concept. The Trinity has always been there. God announces, “Let Us…” make humankind in “our image,” it says. We are told at the start that the spirit of God hovered over the watery chaos and then God called for light, order, life. Remember also that famous line from the Gospel of John, which says, “in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God…” Jesus is that Word of God, with God from the beginning. They were there, always have been there, weaving us together, human to human. So, as God says, “Let us make humankind in our image…”, it also means that our lives were made intentionally to reflect the image of God. Not so much in physical appearance, but perhaps more in our behaviors and relationships.

Distinct, but one in God. Interwoven, interdependent, yet also distinct persons. The Trinity models all of these things for us, showing that we all have a part to sing in God’s song of salvation. God made man and woman, in God’s own image. Made to help each other and tend God’s world. But it’s not a linear thing. It’s a weaving together of the Church to sing the Lord’s song with our many and different voices. Reflecting Heaven on earth.

So friends, strive to be a reflection of God’s own image, not necessarily in appearance, but certainly in the love you share, the voice you speak, the way you participate in fellowship can be a reflection of the true fellowship of the Trinity. Of that eternal presence of God in Three Persons. We depend on each other and we are each distinct persons. What a blessing it can be to realize this and live it. We were made for this. Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Service of Holy Communion**

**Invitation to the Table**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
By the mysterious wonder of our triune God,  
we gather here to celebrate a feast for all time,  
joining with Jesus and his disciples in an upper room,  
with the church of the ages who have come here so often,  
with sisters and brothers in faith all along the way,  
with people we know well and we don’t know at all.

Here we trust that the mystery of God will become real.  
Here we gain a taste of the divine.  
And here we are fed as we go forth to serve in the world.  
Come, all of you, and share this feast of the holiness and wonder of God.

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise your name, most holy God,  
for it is good and you are good.  
You reveal yourself to us in countless ways,  
even inviting us into the mystery of your inmost being  
where you are one in three and three in one.  
In your creation, you show us the marks of your hand,  
and in creating us in your image,  
you call us to bear your presence into all the world.  
For your wondrous being and your glorious creation,  
we join our praise with the sound of all creation  
to sing joyfully in praise of your wondrous glory:

We your church sing your praise, eternal God,  
for in your threefold glory we know Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
Fully human, fully God,  
he was born of low estate and lived among us,  
an ordinary man in an ordinary time  
who yet showed your extraordinary grace.  
He proclaimed your coming kingdom in word and deed,  
challenging the powerful,  
healing the sick and distressed,  
and calling all people to live in light and life.  
Even though he was executed by the powers of the day,  
you raised him to new life  
to show that your power was stronger than death.  
Still now he reigns in glory,  
united in your holy oneness  
to show your presence to all people.

Remembering his life, death, and resurrection,  
we gather at this table as he did to share this feast of heaven and earth,  
that by your power we might be united with you in this bread and cup.

Just as we have known your presence and love in the gift of Father and Son,  
so, O God, reveal yourself to us in the wonder and power of your Holy Spirit.  
Pour out this Spirit of love and hope,  
that we might rise from this holy meal to love and serve in your world.  
Keep us faithful in our service to you,  
that we might give you glory and honor and praise forevermore. This we pray as the first disciples were taught to pray, saying, “Our Father…” Amen.

**Words of Institution**

**Distribution of the Elements**

**Prayer after Communion**

Holy and gracious God, for the meal we have shared, for the nourishment of the spirit and for the life of this community, we give you thanks. Help us to see miraculous signs wherever we see you. Help us to work always for the food that endures, in Christ’s name. Amen.

**Benediction:**

**THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**Social Distancing and Personal Protection!** Please respect one another’s space, observing the 6-foot distancing between one another. Please also wear a mask or some other means of covering your face. Please remember to wash your hands on the way out today. Consider it a reminder of your baptism.

A close up of a logo

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