

We all want to be smart and wise. For some of you, well it's okay at least you have your health. We all want to be the class valedictorian. It's true those very smart, sincerely admit there is so much they don't know, so much more to learn. That's a wise person. Only fools brag about how much they know.

When some pastors and wives were discussing this time of year of horrible graduation speeches, one wife mentioned she was the class valedictorian. I asked if she was homeschooled. It took her a moment to catch the playful joke. (She's 1 in a class of 1). And we have stories how some of the wisest people we ever met, never went to college, some didn't finish high school.

Consider Trinity Sunday -how God calls us to **wisdom and understanding** of Him. Revealed and confessed, yes. This truth, there's no other. Yet beyond our understanding. We like to understand how things work. We like to be in control, have order. We like to understand why things are the way they are. And that's because God made us that way; created us in His image, from Genesis when **God** (singular) **said let us** (plural) **make man in our** (again plural) **image**.

But we are also fallen, much we will not fully understand here, the mysteries of God, but clearly revealed and boldly, without compromise, confessed, as we just did in the long creed.

And most the world doesn't understand. They accept much sin as normal, death as natural, evil as rational self-interest. Obsessed with youth, they don't think about death –if they do, either terror or dream up some sentimental afterlife.

The unbelieving world wants a God that they can understand, explain, and control. Such a god is no God at all. Worse, many take up the name of Jesus and wants a God who will supports their lifestyle and choices, a God who will accept their wisdom and knowledge of right and wrong, such a god is no God at all.

Engage those leading themselves to be damned as you can. By grace we believe what we cannot understand, mystery of God revealed in a clear confession, there is no other, the catholic faith "whole and undefiled." He is one and three. He is just and merciful. He is transcendent and near. He is beyond matter and has taken on flesh. We do not understand, but we confess, we adore, we worship.

Isaiah there in the temple, realizes, like us he's unholy, unclean, deserves to be damned, as we too confess temporal and eternal punishment before a holy God. The presence of the Lord in His House comes with mercy, means of His grace. And so along with Isaiah we see the posture of worship. Repentant, receiving what the Lord desires to give, to be in His presence, and so we join our song with the angels as our Lord comes into His House, holy, holy, holy. As Isaiah hears one holy for each person of the Godhead. So we sing with the angels in the historical liturgy right before the Sacrament, as He come here in glory. More this very day for you than it was with Isaiah. You see then how a servant of the Lord,

brings from the Altar, from the sacrifice for sins made, brings from the sacrifice and places it on his tongue and his sins atoned, forgiven. This happens still, in fullness of Christ completed sacrifice, His body and blood.

See how your God works. Jesus invoked the OT story of a cross, because of sin, those bit are dying, look at God's means of grace and be saved. The wisdom of the world scoffs at the idea to look, embrace, by faith hold to that lifted on a tree to save you from death; scoff at Isaiah receiving forgiveness upon His mouth, as much as water poured over a baby and a little piece of bread and sip of wine -yet these are the very things Your Lord has promised, you can be certain of His work, certain of His forgiveness, certain of your life and know your future. John 3:16 in context is speaking of the crucifixion. The sacrifice to save you, to deliver you.

St. Paul in the Epistle, a direct response to the goodness of God's mercy that He chooses undeserving people, the likes of you, to be His own children. **The depth of riches of both the wisdom and knowledge of God** is His mercy, He is loving and kind and chosen you. His **unsearchable judgements and ways**, beyond our understanding; we have questions, mysteries we cannot fully grasp, but known -as we confess the truth of Scripture.

Wisdom and knowledge. In our world, we should all be prone to skepticism. Technology hasn't solved all our problems; science is neither almighty truth nor without the need for interpretation nor free from liars. Many have raised alarms regarding AI. We can't trust websites or everything that calls itself "news." So also the internet has eroded the ability of the government and the powerful to lie to us. At the same time, it enables every crackpot a voice and fake news. David tells us both **All men are liars** and **trust not in rulers**.

Wisdom and knowledge. Certainly, there's advice to glean from the world but always through the lens of Scripture. When the world tells graduates and frustrated adults "to follow their heart, chase their dreams, live your truth, you can do anything, you be you" of the worse advice in the history of the world- it leads only to much misery, broken families, and feeds the god of the self.

Wisdom and knowledge, in this sea of confusions, chaos. What we have is historical, factual, trustworthy. Trust in Him above all things. Trust His Word, His promises. Be humble for you're saved by grace not by your decisions or smarts.

On this Altar, the body and blood of the 2nd Person of the Holy Trinity. By the power of His Words. How? We don't know, the word 'sacrament' means 'mystery'. But we do know that Jesus, the eternal Word Made Flesh, by whom the universe created, the voice that said **Let there be ...and there was**, He who was lifted up like unto the serpent in the wilderness, He, God in flesh, declares it to be so. And it is so! We do not understand; we confess, we rejoice in what is. Be joined to His life. Here is the most real and true, the most Scriptural worshipful things in all of life. And receive His glory to forgive and hold you unto eternity.