

# Grace Devotion

---

**Week of May 26, 2024**

Pastor Fred Young

On Trinity Sunday we remember with solemnity and praise the foundation in which we live and worship throughout the year. Trinity Sunday is the Sunday after Pentecost. We are invited to encounter God as Three in One. The use of the Triune formula connects the church today with the historic church, born in the struggle of Christians throughout generations to express their beliefs about God in God's Very Being. The language ties together the churches of this generation in our ecumenical life, especially in the Sacrament of Baptism.

The traditional language for the Trinity is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

For many, however, the traditional language is a hindrance to the intimacy of their relationship with God. They note in particular that the tradition incorporates only male language for God, and seek to incorporate other images which point to broader understandings of the substance and characteristics of the Holy Mystery which is our Triune God. "Giver, Gift, and Holy Spirit"; "Maker, Lover, Keeper";

“Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One God, Mother of All”;  
“Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer” are some other Trinitarian  
images drawn from prayerful, scriptural reflection.

Our Scriptures today remind us to remain confident in  
God’s love and to be confident that, for those who seek to  
live by the truth, we are heirs of God and co-heirs with  
Christ. Certainly, as with the church of all ages, we express  
our faith in the Divine, recognizing its Mystery with the  
awareness that words are not sufficient.

++++  
++++

## **PRAYER**

O God of Mystery, within your very self you model the  
beloved community.

You are the Wisdom within our hearts, the Word who  
dwells among us,  
the Spirit who calls us beyond ourselves. Let us know your  
presence here today

In a new way, that we might celebrate your love and go  
forth rejoicing with the Prophet Isaiah, saying: “Here am I.  
Send me.” ***(Isaiah 6:8b)***

Blessings! Pastor Fred

May 26, 2024—Trinity Sunday

+++++

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WESTMINISTER CHIMES and

PRELUDE: “O My Father” by James

McGranahan

\*\* SONG: “My Hope Is in You”

~Aaron Shust

\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ascribe to God glory and strength;

Worship God in Holy Splendor

**The Splendor of our Creator meets us here. We are filled with awe before our God.**

The voice of God is powerful and full of majesty. God offers strength and peace to all people.

**God’s voice thunders over the waters.**

**God’s strength empowers our response.**

Holy, holy, holy is the God of hosts.

The whole earth is full of God’s glory.

**The universe is God’s dwelling place. There is no place from which God is absent.**

\*\*PRAYER

**O God, you are beyond our wildest imagining. When we speak of you, there are no words to describe your majesty and power. We know you best in Jesus who shared your love with all he met.**

**He called for our rebirth as your children cleansed by water and the spirit. We want to be faithful in the work you give us to do. Bless our worship that we may be a blessing to others. Amen**

\*\*HYMN: “Holy, Holy, Holy” #262

\*\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
PRAYER OF CONFESSIO

*MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER*

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER/LORD’S PRAYER (DEBTS)  
RECEPTION of NEW MEMBERS

TIME FOR THE YOUNG A HEART  
SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 6:1-8    John 3:1-17

SERMON “*Three in One*”

\*\*HYMN “Come, Thou Almighty King”  
#267

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A New Creed*

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR  
TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*\*DOXOLOGY #625

\*\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*\*SONG: “God Bless the U.S.A.” ~Lee  
Greenwood

\*\*FINAL BLESSING

\*\* A CHORAL BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE: Battle Hymn of the  
Republic

+++++

**Today’s Worship Elements have been  
adapted from the following resource:**

**Led By Love Worship Resources for  
Year B.** Lavon Bayler. United Church  
Press. Cleveland. 1996

+++++

**Announcements**

**We will have a reception of new  
members TODAY! Please welcome  
them to the Grace family!**

**Upcoming Events**

- MAY: Koins for Kinny (today is the last day)
- Town Hall Meeting: June 23<sup>rd</sup> during worship
- Potluck and Crooners: June 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately following worship

**Volunteer Opportunities—Sign ups in**

**Gathering Place**

- Volunteer counters after church
- Lectors
- Snack providers

# When the truth hurts

*So stop telling lies. Let us tell our neighbors the truth, for we are all parts of the same body.—*  
Ephesians 4:25



A high-school golfer named Chelsee Richard was competing in a qualifying round for the state finals. On the second hole, she hit her tee shot into the rough. Then, without realizing it, she mistakenly played another golfer's ball out of the rough and finished the hole.

It wasn't until the next hole that she realized her mistake. But the rule is that a golfer must declare if they hit the wrong ball before they put it into the hole – or else they will be disqualified.

Chelsee faced a dilemma: She could cover up her error and go on to compete for the state championship. Or, she could tell the truth and report her mistake. Drawing strength from her Christian faith, she reported her error, which painfully ended her senior season and dream of playing for the championship.

She said: *“With my faith and with God, being honest was the most important thing to me, and that's what is going to advance on throughout my life, being honest and making the right choices.”*

Telling the truth isn't always easy – but it's the right thing to do. So when you're in a dilemma between the truth and an easy

way out, be truthful, and trust in God to reward your obedience!

### ***Prayer Challenge***

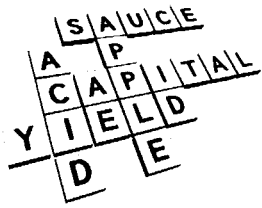
Ask God to give you the strength to be truthful even when it means taking a harder path.

### ***Questions for thought***

Have you ever been in a situation when telling the truth hurt you? What happened?

How might understanding that God gives eternal rewards help motivate you to tell the truth?

<https://www.seniorlivingministries.org/2024/03/when-the-truth-hurts-3/>



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# John 3:1-17

B	R	L	S	S	J	P	J	K	K	F	O	M	C	C	G	I	U	X	E
N	O	B	U	W	I	Y	J	X	T	E	P	A	Z	X	N	J	W	J	W
G	Z	E	M	L	X	R	D	S	N	K	R	O	B	Q	M	B	T	G	S
U	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	W	E	O	N	V	X	I	Q	U	W	N	S
M	L	K	C	I	Z	X	E	Z	Q	L	E	A	F	V	Y	P	Q	X	I
Z	N	F	D	Y	L	N	I	J	U	O	U	G	O	E	S	I	E	T	Y
C	K	T	M	E	U	F	I	H	N	L	I	Z	P	S	L	U	H	E	T
U	Q	K	L	T	D	W	W	M	D	Z	N	X	I	V	G	V	X	A	X
F	Q	R	Q	W	U	H	D	I	E	I	Q	D	E	H	R	K	M	C	K
R	Z	X	A	B	N	R	U	Y	R	D	N	V	I	I	C	Z	D	H	C
T	A	G	Y	K	I	L	X	V	S	G	A	H	X	Z	G	B	X	E	E
M	C	B	L	M	C	M	U	W	T	U	E	S	E	Z	Q	D	G	R	P
H	Q	I	B	O	O	A	H	D	A	L	C	F	C	A	A	F	F	B	X
F	O	K	R	I	D	R	V	W	N	G	C	V	M	E	V	H	W	L	A
Z	H	O	B	P	E	V	V	F	D	J	A	Y	D	W	N	E	Y	Q	L
I	A	L	F	N	M	E	N	I	G	H	T	O	T	Q	W	D	N	H	S
F	T	T	U	N	U	L	Z	D	O	F	O	C	V	E	R	U	E	L	N
A	Z	H	X	J	S	K	E	L	S	C	C	F	T	B	J	U	L	D	Y
J	N	U	M	I	H	I	F	L	Z	U	E	R	U	L	E	R	Z	P	D
K	A	G	Y	C	Y	X	X	A	O	V	T	E	S	T	I	M	O	N	Y

Nicodemus  
Teacher  
Testimony

Ruler  
Marvel  
Understand

Night  
Kingdom  
Ascended

Rabbi  
Heavenly

# Psalms 29



Y	M	Q	Y	Q	I	Z	D	O	G	C	C	Z	P	I	N	X	U	O	Q	Array
S	J	Q	J	W	A	T	J	L	A	B	S	Q	B	U	U	H	E	P	W	Ascribe
I	R	C	M	A	O	Y	O	O	V	S	R	K	Y	Z	C	B	B	N	T	Cedars
G	H	A	D	K	W	R	L	O	E	A	U	P	Y	S	V	D	J	N	C	Flames
O	K	N	D	R	Y	Y	S	N	K	T	E	H	J	X	A	U	U	Y	R	Glory
G	K	H	D	E	K	Q	R	H	E	A	B	P	B	W	G	B	D	Y	F	Heavenly
G	W	Y	U	X	C	E	Y	P	I	V	J	S	R	X	K	E	M	M	V	Lebanon
P	C	L	O	E	D	B	W	K	C	P	A	Z	I	C	C	N	Q	Y	W	Majesty
W	Z	I	W	L	M	S	A	B	E	P	X	E	H	Y	O	J	T	S	L	Powerful
Q	B	U	I	V	U	U	T	Y	N	D	R	P	H	N	I	H	I	X	W	Sirion
C	X	W	W	G	S	F	E	R	K	N	Y	Y	A	I	G	F	K	J	H	Thunders
Y	I	Z	Q	E	H	L	R	U	W	N	L	B	C	V	K	B	A	W	U	Voice
K	Y	Z	M	D	J	V	S	E	G	B	E	U	Y	M	O	G	G	B	Y	Waters
U	N	A	P	N	H	H	J	U	W	L	J	A	Q	K	F	I	M	W	Y	Wilderness
G	L	P	H	X	S	H	Y	K	Z	O	S	L	E	V	X	C	C	D	T	Worship
F	C	S	Y	F	P	I	J	A	C	C	P	K	L	N	R	D	U	E	S	
Z	W	M	N	Q	K	C	R	T	R	B	O	K	F	U	W	N	J	D	E	
W	V	F	I	Q	U	H	U	I	U	R	V	R	I	Q	N	N	T	C	J	
U	A	W	M	G	L	V	B	L	O	W	A	C	H	Q	E	T	N	D	A	
H	T	H	U	N	D	E	R	S	S	N	Z	B	T	R	J	F	G	W	M	