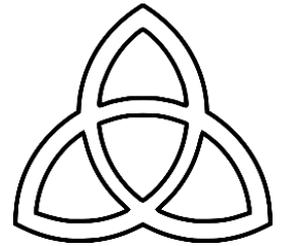


**Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>** For use by the Central Norfolk Circuit at 10.30 am or at another time

Today is Trinity Sunday when we celebrate God as three persons, yet one God.

### **Prayer**

Father God, you have created all things  
and through Christ revealed your salvation in all the world.  
Give us a vision of your glory and, by your Holy Spirit, fill us with life and love  
that we may praise and serve you through Jesus Christ our Lord  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



### **Hymn StF 11 / H&P 7**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Reginald Heber (1783 – 1826)

*Come before God in your own prayer of confession.*

**Psalm set for today:** Psalm 8

**Lectionary Gospel Reading:** Matthew 28 v 16 – 20

### **For thought**

*Can you split the gospel reading up into 3 actions by the disciples, 3 things they are told to do by Jesus and 1 amazing promise? If just one of these were to strike you today, which would it be?*

**Hymn StF 6** MP 142

**OR**

MP 139

Father, we love you, (repeat with Jesus and Spirit)  
we worship and adore you.

glorify your name in all the earth.

Glorify your name, glorify your name,

Glorify your name in all the earth.

Donna Adkins (b 1940)

Father, we adore you, (repeat with Jesus and Spirit)  
lay our lives before you:

how we love you!

Terry Coelho (copyright 1972 Maranatha Music)

CCL nos. 168415, 495683, 102550, 962013 & others

### **For Prayer**

We pray for all those who need to know the presence of Jesus with them, especially today.

We pray for our world, our country, the Methodist Church and our own Central Norfolk Circuit, our community, our local church and fellowship, our family and friends, ourselves.

We pray for all of us as changes continue to be made to the lockdown rules and as both individuals, and the government, have to make difficult and finely judged decisions.

We pray with **Andrew Hull**, member at Swaffham, (in his job as bearer and funeral assistant) at this very sensitive time when many cannot say their last farewells to loved ones. We pray for God's blessing and protection for all those involved in the care of the deceased and their grieving families, and particularly, for all those removing Covid 19 victims asking that they may all come safely through this time.

We also pray with **Mark Trinder** (as he prepares to re-open his business showroom):  
*"Lord be with all those who are nervous about the new way of working, guide and protect them and their customers. Help everybody to learn the lessons of how to be safe and how also to protect others to prevent a 2nd wave of this virus. Amen"*

We say the Lord's Prayer...

**Offer to God your offertory for the week:** and, if cash, put it aside in a special place.

### **Message from a Circuit Friend**

There are many ways of depicting God as 'three-in-one'. My favourite image of The Trinity is the well-known Rublev Icon, which shows three figures, almost identical, yet each with their own distinctive characteristics. It was created by Andrei Rublev, a Russian monk in 1422, and I came across a good reproduction of this, most unexpectedly. In Norwich one day, about three years ago, I was drawn to look at a small stall, near the market place, run by an Orthodox priest, dressed in all his robes and regalia! The English Orthodox church were raising funds for their building in Sutton, on the Broads. On the stall, were general greetings cards, but also a vast selection of icons, mostly of saints. Looking closely, I found the Rublev icon which I was already familiar with, and as I purchased it, the priest was keen to tell me all about the icon and its artist, saying that it was a 'special revelation', from God himself. It is an image that is both human and spiritual at the same time. The three figures with their light and transparency, draw the viewer in, to an intimate closeness, with the three persons of the Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In a sense, we re-enact that scene each time we say 'The Grace' to one another (or on our own, for the time being). We share in the greatness and power of God the Father; in his love and compassion through Jesus the Son; and the knowledge that God is with us, in Jesus, through the Holy Spirit. While we have to be apart for now – we are not apart from God, but embraced in the greatness, love and fellowship of the three in one.

Jesus assured his followers, when he returned to heaven, "Surely I am with you always".

***Elsie Warby (Local Preacher and member of Watton Methodist Church)***



Icon of the Trinity painted by Russian painter Andrei Rublev in the 15<sup>th</sup> century

### **For further thought**

What do you see in this painting?

### **Hymn StF 67 / H&P 277**

This, this is the God we adore,  
Our faithful, unchangeable friend,  
whose love is as great as his power,  
and neither knows measure nor end:

'Tis Jesus, the first and the last,  
whose Spirit shall guide us safe home;  
We'll praise him for all that is past,  
and trust him for all that's to come.

© Joseph Hart (1712 -67)

**May the blessing of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us, and all those we love, this day and always, Amen.**