

TRINITY SUNDAY YEAR B
Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17.

Additional resources for Trinity B: *Love from Below*, John L Bell, Graham Maule, Wild Goose Worship Group, 1989 The Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland; *Australian Psalms*, Bruce Prewer, Lutheran Publishing House, Adelaide, South Australia, 1991; *BE OUR FREEDOM, LORD*, ed Terry C Falla, Openbook Publishers, Adelaide, 1994.

USE THE HOLY COMMUNION LITURGY FOR PENTECOST

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us praise God the Creator,
who is filled with glory and power - with holiness and splendour;
Let us worship God the Saviour,
who is filled with love and compassion - with justice and peace;
Let us experience God the Spirit,
who fills us with faith and joy - with love and eternal life.

TIS 101/AHB 5: "Come, you people, come adore him"

LOVE FROM BELOW 84: "God the Creator" Tune TIS 156/AHB 91 Bunesan.

TIS 454/AHB 382 "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness"

PRAYER OF APPROACH -

"The Voice of God" - Bruce Prewer's interpretation of Psalm 29 in *Australian Psalms* (page 39) or

Awesome God, your creative power, your glory and holiness are beyond our imagining, yet, you chose to reveal yourself in the person of Jesus Christ, who graciously showed us the human face of your love. He stretched our imaginations once more over the lengths he was prepared to demonstrate the depth of your love for us. And, as if that was not enough, you breathe new and everlasting life into our very beings, through the power of your Spirit. Triune God, Source of our lives, we worship and adore you. Amen

TIS 716: "Father we adore you" Sing as a round

OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 6:1-8

Invite the reader to read the verses as dramatically as possible.

A WORD WITH THE CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE

The Trinity is difficult for children/young people (and adults!) to grasp - I've suggested one idea below....

The dimensions of the temple were approx. 90 feet long, 30 feet wide and 45 feet high. This would have been a modest building compared to some large worship centres nowadays but when it was built it was considered a great architectural achievement. Invite everyone to imagine the picture of God painted in the words we heard from Isaiah. It was as though the whole temple was too small to contain the vision of God. Invite everyone to picture the scene as if it were taking place in your church. The hem of God's robe filled the whole space - just the hem! Angels with six wings filled the air and sang about the holiness of God. It is a picture almost beyond our understanding but it spells out the majesty and awesome splendour of God. If this was our only image of God, we might believe God to be too far removed from us to really care about us. But God's love for the world - for you and me - was so great that God decided that that love would be recognisable in a way we could all understand - and so God's love was born just as we are born - as a baby who grew up to adulthood. God's love took on human form in Jesus. And God's love did not die with Je-

sus, but was born in a new way - as Jesus' life and love within us as power we know as the Holy Spirit. So, while there is still one God, we experience God's love in many different ways - but perhaps in three very special ways: as awesome love; as tender love, and as personal love.. So, today, known as Trinity Sunday, emphasises again just how much we are loved by God.

TIS 106/AHB 14: "Now thank we all our God"

TIS 146/AHB 82: " God, who made the earth...cares about me"

AHB 119: "Like a father watching over me"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God, creator of all the wonders which make up this world...

forgive us for treating our part of the world as a commodity to be used rather than a gift to be cherished. Forgive our failure to care for and protect this lovely land, its oceans, rivers and lakes, and the air that we breathe each day.

God, bearer of our humanity in Jesus Christ...

forgive us when we fail to live out Jesus' commandment to love one another as he loves us. When we judge another person by the colour of their skin, by their possessions or their achievements, rather than accepting them as they are - as we all are - persons loved and accepted by you.

God, giver of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us into all truth...

forgive us when we betray the truth of the gospel through our lack of integrity and our abuse of ethical and moral principles .

God, Creator, Redeemer, Life-giving Spirit, fill us anew with your creative power that we may be reborn in your image, glorifying you in and through who we are and what we do and say in Jesus' name. As Jesus' disciples and in his name we pray. Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." So, hear the good news: "Those who believe in him are not condemned." (John 3 :16 - 18 NRSV)

Thanks be to God !

EPISTLE: Romans 8:12-17

GOSPEL: John 3: 1-17

SERMON

TIS 118/AHB 38: "We give immortal praise"

TIS 160/AHB 104: "Father all-loving and ruling in majesty"

TIS 167/AHB 116: "How deep the riches of our God"

TIS 478/AHB 454: "I bind unto myself today"

SUGGESTIONS FOR PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Prayers from *Be our Freedom, Lord* - "The wind of the Spirit" on page 353 begins with a reference to Nicodemus and could be used as prayer of thanksgiving perhaps leaving out the final two lines and using the prayer "Come, Holy Spirit, renew the whole creation" on page 346 as prayer of intercession adding local concerns where appropriate.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, today we have been remembering with gratitude the many ways in which you touch and bless our lives. Your holiness inspires us to be more holy; your love causes us to be more loving; your life in us brings to birth dreams and visions for a better and more just world. We offer these gifts and our lives in thankfulness for all you have done and are doing in our lives. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

TIS 142/AHB 84 "Glory be to God the Father"

TIS 435: " We all believe in God who made..."

BENEDICTION:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.
2 Corinthians 13:13 NRSV

THREEFOLD AMEN