

Lessons for Holy Trinity

May 22, 2016

Psalm 8 (*ant: v. 9*) ~ *Praise the majestic name of the Lord our God, who created all things.*

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 ~ *Wisdom, the eternal Word of God, is the active force in the creation of the world.*

Acts 2:14a, 22-31 ~ *Peter appealed to David's authority to witness that Jesus was David's son and Lord.*

John 8:48-59 ~ *The Jews of Jesus' day could not understand how Jesus could be greater than Abraham.*

**GATHERING THE TEXTS:** "Yet There Are Not Three Gods, but One God."

This Sunday we move from the Time of Festivals in the church year, which celebrate events in Jesus' life, to the Time of the Church. Trinity Sunday commemorates the Triune God. We are one with all the faithful who struggle to explain what scripture says about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, while still maintaining that our God is One. The pre-incarnate Son of God, represented as *Wisdom* by Solomon in Proverbs, was present and active in the creation of the world. Peter explained that the Son of promise was King David's Lord. Our Lord Himself told the people that His day included Abraham's time.

**PRAYER BEFORE THE SERVICE:** O God of my beginning, I thank you for life; O God of my living, I thank you for grace; O God of my ending, I thank you for hope. Help me to live each day in the joy of your salvation that I may be ready to die in the certainty of your love. Amen.

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT:** Everything that exists has been made by God's command to serve His will and bring Him glory. Everything entrusted to our care, whether material or spiritual, is at our disposal for service to the only true and triune God. May He grant us wisdom to use it to His glory and for our good and the benefit of our neighbors, especially those who need the most.

**OFFERING PRAYER:** From the foundation of the world, O Lord, these molecules of earth,  
Called into being by Your creating voice,  
Have a certain value of their own, but they are given greater worth  
By Your blessing, when we commit them to Your choice. Amen.

**CONVICTION AND COMFORT:** The Lord God is known by His works. He has created this world and still preserves it; He redeemed lost mankind from the powers of sin and death; He claimed Abraham and all who believe in Him as His own for all eternity. But we measure God by our own expectations and attribute the existence of this world to chance. We try to explain things in temporal terms we can comprehend. God has completed one more remarkable work to show forth His glory: by the incarnation of His Son, through His suffering and death, in His perfect life and victorious resurrection, He has covered over our incredulous doubts and called us to faith.