

# SERMON NOTES 26 May 2024 Trinity Sunday Sunnyside Church

## Questions for Discussion

Read Isaiah 6:1-8

What does this passage teach us about the wonder and holiness of God?

Read John 3:1-17

What does this passage teach us about Jesus, his relationship with God, and the Holy Spirit?

(Note the words “Spirit” and “wind” are the same in the original Greek.

What is your experience of

- (a) God our creator
- (b) The Son as our Saviour
- (c) The Holy Spirit as our life giver.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century Christians were accused of believing in 3 Gods. The Trinity was put forward as showing that Christians believed in one God but 3 persons.

In many belief statements the Trinity has been put forward as fundamental to the faith. How important do you feel about this?

How would you explain the doctrine of the Trinity?

A Prayer: Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and live and reign in the perfect unity of love. Hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all ways, and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons in one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

## Main points of the sermon

Most of us would describe a great piece of music in terms of wonder and joy. It could also be described as different sound wave lengths at different time intervals.

The doctrine of the Trinity can similarly be described in different ways. First in Isaiah 6 (out OT reading) we express the majesty and holiness of God. We can also look at the glory of God’s creation, the sky at night, the beauty of the countryside, and the coast line. Second we can look at Jesus Christ, God’s Son, the incarnation, his life, death and resurrection. Thirdly we can look at God’s presence in the world of today. We see God at work in communities and in the lives of individual people. This is a sign of the power of the Holy Spirit.

These are three pictures of God at work today. They are different pictures but signs of the one true God alive and active. God our creator, God our Saviour, God our life giver, one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

In the 4<sup>th</sup> Century the Church was accused of believing in 3 gods. As a result the Church came up with the doctrine of the Trinity. One God, but 3 persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There were major debates over this at the time and ever since. They can get a bit complicated, but its an important debate in the defence of the truth of our faith.

The prayer of the grace in 2 Corinthians helps us to understand the depths of what the Trinity represents. The saving grace of the Son gives us access to the love of the Father, and the fellowship, the participation, of the Holy Spirit. We pray to God the Father, in the name of Jesus, God’s son, and in the power of the Holy Spirit. So we declare...

We believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

John Kirkby