

First Sunday After Pentecost: Trinity Sunday

June 7, 2020

Year A RCL

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8 ; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

“Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.”

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After the celebration of Easter and Pentecost, it seems logical from the liturgical point of view to reflect on the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Today we celebrate one the greatest mysteries and attributes of God. We recognize Him as One God in three different persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. While the role of each one of them is different in the plan of salvation, the divine nature of all three Trinitary Persons is the same. the relationship among the three shows their unity and symbiotic work that supports and bring forward Father, Son and Holy Spirit together all the time. St Augustine uses the analogy of the Father as the lover, the Son as the loved or beloved, and the Holy Spirit as the love, trying to explain their union and autonomy.

The unity of God, His power and presence, in the world is visible and perceptible in three different ways:

The Father through the Creation

The Son through the Redemption

The Holy Spirit through continued Sanctification

Even if this statements of our faith and Christian theology sound far from us and from our human reality, the Holy Scriptures through the story of creation from the book of Genesis in today's first lesson and in the text of the great commission from today's gospel help us today to realize how the Trinitarian God is present and around us all the time.

Let's start with the story of creation, for seven days God works creating from nothing, the world which was non-existent before Him. He carefully places day by day a component of the world. Each time God wants to create something the power of His word, "God said", has the capacity to call to existence all the new beings. Also, each time God creates, He approves as positive the new beings of life: "God saw that it was good." Each day God makes something unique and different from the day before putting attention at all the details from plants, to animals and creatures of every kind.

When we start the reading, we hear that "a wind from God swept over the face of the waters". This wind has been associated with the Holy Spirit and confirms that while the Father is creating, the Holy Spirit was present. For our understanding of relationships among the persons of the Trinity, when one of

the persons is present, the other two are there as well. Something similar happens when we arrive to the sixth day of creation; we hear God's voice saying, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness." This first Person of God, speaking with a plural invitation, has been interpreted as the presence of the Trinity of God working together.

From this story of creation, we verify the perfection of God manifested in the whole world that was precisely prepared and formed. Each component shows peace and harmony designed by God Himself as an expression of the communion and community of love that is among the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The Trinity of God present in the precision of the creation story, is a reminder of how synchronized and knowledgeable God is of human nature, and anticipates, since the beginning of the world, the mystery of the Incarnation of Jesus.

The "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness," shows of God, that the image the Father uses to create human beings, is the image of His Son Jesus. Each human being then has the face of Jesus to the Father, therefore God cares and loves each one of us to the extreme. It is in this unlimited love from the Triune God that we can receive and enjoy the promise Jesus made in

today's gospel to his disciples and for us, "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age".

The celebration of the Trinity of God is also a reminder for us to consider and denounce the way we are misusing, exploiting, manipulating, and consuming God's creation in the wrong direction. It is clear that our contemporary individualism and lack of good stewardship for the resources are contrary to the communion and harmony of equality of the whole human race God created.

Since we have been baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, and sent to make disciples, baptizing and teaching others, never forget that the image and likeness of God in you is always bigger and better than the image you see of yourself. Amen.