

The Rev. Dr. Mary Barber

June 15, 2025

Trinity Sunday

Be with us. God the Father. The Lord. Yahweh. Adonai. Elohim. The Creator, Source of Life. The Almighty. The Everlasting.

Be with us. You who are seated between the cherubim, large fearsome animal-like creatures who guard your presence.

Be with us. Lord. Lord of hosts, hosts meaning armies. Lord of holy armies ready to do justice. You are the one whose very name is holy, whose many names are holy. The great I AM.

Be with us, God. God who sees a young enslaved woman fleeing cruelty. God who hears the cries of your people suffering under Pharaoh.

Be with us. God who sends manna. God who says I'm sorry, who makes a promise and sends a rainbow. God who changes God's mind on the mountain with Moses, when you remember who you are and how much you love us.

Be with us, our shepherd in whom we shall not want for anything. You spread a table before us in the presence of those who would seek to harm us. With you, our cup is always running over.

Be with us. Radiant one, sanctified one, glorified one, magnified one. Divine wisdom, Sophia, she who was present from the beginning, she who is. Be with us, you who delight in us. Enter our gates, stand at our portals and cry out with us.

Be with us, God our Father. Abba. God our tender Mother, who gathers us as a hen gathers her chicks. Be with us. God who resists all our images and definitions and pronouns, God who is as present and as elusive as the wind.

Be with us. Hear all the names for you that we whisper and cry out in times of need and wonder and sorrow and joy.

Be with us. Pour your love into our hearts. Guide us into your truth.

Be with us. Jesus. The Christ. The Messiah. The chosen, the anointed one.

Be with us. Jesus. The Son of God.

The Son of Man. That Divine being that the prophet Daniel said would come down in a cloud from heaven and raise up the righteous, make us shine like the stars. The branch who the prophet Isaiah said would grow out of the shoot that would come from the stump of Jesse's family tree.

Be with us. The one our ancestors waited for. The one we still wait for. Be with us, God who became human, Emmanuel, God with us. God who is still with us, right now, but right now, we need to feel your presence.

Be with us, Jesus who said, whenever two or three are gathered, you are here!

Who said you are with us, to the end of the age.

Be with us. Make your presence known in this time, in this place.

Be with us, baby in the manger, be with us, young boy in the Temple.

Be with us, Jesus the teacher, Jesus the healer, Jesus the prophet and priest. The man on the cross.

Be with us, our Savior, our Redeemer.

Be with us, light of the world, bread of life, our good shepherd, the way, the truth, the life.

Be with us, Jesus, with your living water. You are the one who tells us everything we have ever done, everything we have ever been through. You know it all, because you have been through it all yourself. Be with us, sacred Word, who was with God, the Word who was God, from the very beginning. You are of one being with the Father. Be with us, the one who was and is and is to come.

You told us to love each other. You told us to love our neighbor. You told us to love ourselves.

Be with us, Jesus! You too have many names. Pour your love into our hearts. Guide us into your truth.

Be with us! Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and Son.

Be with us, Spirit who hovered over the formless void at the very beginning of creation.

Be with us, breath of God, ruach, you are the gentle breeze and the sound of rushing wind. You are wind, water, and sometimes, fire!

Be with us, you who are the feeling we get that makes us want to clap and shout and sing and stomp our feet and say, Amen! Hallelujah! Because we are so full of you.

Be with us, contagious one. We can all catch you, Spirit, at once, just like they did on that Pentecost so many years ago.

Be with us, comforter, prodder, sustainer. You are that thing inside that keeps us going when we think we have nothing left.

Be with us. You are the one who when we say, No way! I can't! I'm not good enough, or holy enough, or strong enough, or just enough -- You are the one who says, Oh yes you can, and you will!

Be with us, spirit of truth, the spirit that tells us the things we cannot bear to hear, but we must. You are the one who pushes, who guides us into the whole truth, and then you are the one who pushes us to do something about those things that should change, that must change.

Be with us, you who the Son sent. You who were with the Father and the Son, who are with the Father and the Son now.

Be with us, be with us, be with us.

Be with us, holy mystery, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, creator, redeemer, sustainer, the three and the one. Be with us, now when we need your fierce and gentle presence. Be with us now, when so many are threatened, when so many are hurting. Be with us, when our own armies are being used against us. Be with us, when we are afraid to watch the news.

Be with us, when we don't know what to do, how to respond, how to stop the harm. Be with us when we don't know how to talk about it, how to be together. Be with us, stand with us, hold us, walk and march and weep with us. Make a way, when there seems to be no way.

Be with us, holy mystery, three and one. You are Love in creation, Love in action, Love in relationship, Love in being-with. Love that is stronger than death and Love that can never never die.

Be with us, Holy Trinity, one God. Pour your love into our hearts. Guide us into your truth. Amen.