

### CELEBRATING THE MYSTERY!

(Genesis 1:1, 26-27, 31; Matthew 28:19)

**Grace, mercy and peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ**

Today we celebrate the mystery of God in three persons:  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We begin every Service in his Name! It was in his Name that we were  
baptised!

We'll never fully comprehend the mystery of God this side of eternity! We  
accept it by faith as his revelation of himself.

As Luther once said: "To try to deny the Trinity endangers your salvation.  
To try to comprehend the Trinity endangers your sanity."

We can't understand, or explain, the mystery of the Trinity, we can only  
believe his revelation of himself! And believing we are blessed beyond  
comprehension, at the glorious things our gracious God has done, and  
continues to do!

The mystery begins, of course, before creation itself begins, when God  
decided to take nothing and make something of it:  
***"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."***

And when everything was in place, God looked on his creation and saw that it  
was good.

Then God said, ***"Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, .  
. . So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he  
created them; male and female he created them."***

Creation was good and it reflected God's, power, greatness and glory,  
which can be seen from creation itself. Paul in Romans 1:20 put it this way:

***"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his  
eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being  
understood from what has been made, so that people are without  
excuse."***

From the creation around us we can know that God is **Almighty!**

But that's cold comfort for us here! Just think of the insignificants of human  
beings when the world we live in is smaller than a speck of dust in the vastness  
of our Milky Way Galaxy, which itself is but speck of dust among the billions of  
Galaxies in the universe!

But God has revealed himself to be more than almighty! Psalm 8 speaks of this:

**O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?**

**GOD IS MINDFUL AND DOES CARE!**

Even when Adam and Eve ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and decided it would be better to be like God without God being involved.

God cared and promised to do something about it when he declared that the offspring of the woman would crush the head of the serpent, and the serpent would strike his heel.

God decided he would rescue us from ourselves by becoming one of us, and by revealing the fullness of himself in Christ Jesus and - being in human form – in love taking upon himself our sin and the sin of the world. becoming the embodiment of sin in our place!

Rom 5:8 “***God demonstrates his love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.***”

AND

2 Cor 5:21 “***God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.***”

That’s the amazing love that God has for us! A love he has poured into our hearts in Baptism!

Wanting to return to God was the last thing on our minds, because sin had blinded us to God and turned him into an enemy to be avoided.

**IT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO BRINGS US TO FAITH!**

It is the Spirit who through the Gospel restores us to God.

As Paul says:

***When we cry Abba -, Father, it is the Spirit of God bearing witness with our Spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. - if in fact we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.***

We don’t know everything about God that there is to know, and we’ll never will on this side of eternity. God is far greater than our ability to know him!

But we do know that God has revealed himself as:

**a loving FATHER, a dear BROTHER, and a caring SPIRIT**

One day we will know our God perfectly, as Paul says [1 Cor 13:12] :

***“For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.”***

In the meantime his Spirit is with us and in us:

**Assuring** us in all our trials and difficulties and pains and worries in our journey to our inheritance, that he is with us always;

**Encouraging** us not to grumble and stress and worry, as if though we’ve been left stranded and left as orphans!

**Reminding** us of the grace that surrounds us and the love that will never let us down.

We’re encouraged to look up to Christ and live the fullness of life that is ours, trusting that:

***“He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”*** Rom 8:32

**“May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God [*the Father*],  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with *us* all, on this day and forevermore.  
Amen.”**

**The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

Sermon by Pastor John Simboras  
7 June 2020