

DEVOTION FOR MONDAY AFTER THE HOLY TRINITY

PSALM 139:1-18

O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord. You hem me in behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, you saw my unformed body.

All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. When I awake, I am with you still.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen*

Old Testament Reading: 1 Kings 19:1-18 *Elijah and the Lord*

New Testament Reading: Revelation 22:1-21 *Come Lord Jesus*

"FATHER, SON & HOLY SPIRIT"

The Sunday of the Holy Trinity provides an opportunity to reflect on the nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one God in three persons. It's amazing that one being could express Himself in three persons and remain one being. But God is pretty amazing. Consider the vastness of the universe, which He created and sustains by the power of His word. The size of the universe is beyond our comprehension. Consider then that God is greater than the universe, which He fills with His Spirit and surrounds with His majesty.

God is so big, but He can make Himself small enough to be present to each one of us individually, and as a gathering of believers. The psalmist asked, "*Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven you are there! If I make my bed in the depths of the earth, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.*" If God can be all that and do those things and even more, He can also be three persons and remain one divine being.

But there is something more amazing and incomprehensible about God than His vastness, or the triune nature of His being and that is His love! From the most ancient times people have sensed the presence of the divine Spirit and perceived His power in the natural world. Paul wrote in the letter to the Romans, "*His invisible attributes, namely His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.*" People have envisioned God in many different ways in the course of time, through the forces of nature, but none of the ancients perceived God fully according to His love. The most amazing and incomprehensible thing about God is His love!

God revealed Himself to ancient Israel in love, expressed in forgiveness. Again and again the psalmists proclaimed God as love singing, "*For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him.*" God reveals Himself as love most clearly in Christ, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, to be our Saviour from sin and death. In Him the mystery of God is made known in love, mercy and forgiveness.

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY” (Public Domain)

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!**

PRAYER

Father, Son and Holy Spirit; heaven and earth proclaim your glory. Angels, archangels and the whole company of heaven, sing your praise. The saints in heaven, redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, join in the chorus. The church on earth celebrates your grace in forgiveness, and looks forward to the day when it too will stand in heaven's splendour to behold your majesty and sing your praise. O blessed Holy Trinity, keep us in your grace, bring us to the resurrection of Christ when hope is realized, faith passes into sight and we enjoy the fullness of your love in light. In Jesus' Name. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven.
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen**

THE CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

***“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”***