THE MBPC TEXTER

MOUNTAIN BROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH/ BIRMINGHAM AL



What is Trinity Sunday?

FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN MISSION

On Trinity Sunday we proclaim the mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One.

The celebration of Trinity Sunday began among Western Christians in the 10th century and developed slowly until it was formally established on the Sunday after Pentecost by Pope John XXII (1316-1334).

Unlike other festivals in the church's liturgical calendar, Trinity Sunday centers on a *doctrine* of the church, rather than an event. It celebrates the unfathomable mystery of God's being as Holy Trinity.

Trinity Sunday, in a sense, synthesizes all we have celebrated over the past months which have centered on God's mighty acts. It is, therefore, a fitting transition to that part of the year when Sunday by Sunday the work of God among us is unfolded in a more general way.

We are of the family of the triune God. We affirm this parentage when, in reciting the creeds, we say what we believe. Our discipleship is rooted in the mighty acts of this triune God who is active in redeeming the world. The triune God is the basis of all our prayers — we pray to God the Father, through Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit. The Trinity holds central place in our faith.

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1st Reading: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

2nd Reading:

READING 1

PROVERBS 8:1-4, 22-31

1Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? 20n the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; 3beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: 4"To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. 22The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. 23Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. 24When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. 25Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth-26when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. 27When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, 28when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, 29when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, 30then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, 31rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.



ABOUT PROVERBS:

Hebrew Name - Mishley "proverbs"

Greek Name - Paroimiae (Greek form of the Hebrew)

Author - Solomon (According to Tradition)

Date - 1000 BC Approximately

The Book of Proverbs is one of the Wisdom Books of Hebrew Scripture. The primary purpose of the book is to teach wisdom, not only to the young and inexperienced but also to the learned.

The Book of Proverbs provides profound insights and exceptional wisdom on how to live a happy and peaceful life, by honoring and respecting God as all-good and all-powerful.

The Book of Proverbs - מִּשְׁלֵי - was begun during the time of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel, prior to the Babylonian exile. The entire Book of Proverbs is a composite work collected over time.

Christ and the Apostles directly quoted the Proverbs (John 7:38, Romans 12:20, and James 4:6) or repeated their teaching.

Prayer for Trinity Sunday

Holy, triune God, all that is, all that was, and all that ever will be belongs to you alone. You have spoken to us through your Word made flesh. Now guide us into the truth by the gift of your Holy Spirit, so that we may glorify you forever and ever.

JOHN 16:12-15 / YEAR C



READING 2

ROMANS 5:1-5

1Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

ABOUT ROMANS:

The writer of this letter was the apostle Paul.

The book was probably written in the early spring of a.d. 57. Very likely Paul was on his third missionary journey. The most likely place of writing is either Corinth or Cenchrea (about six miles away).

The original recipients of the letter were the people of the church at Rome, who were predominantly Gentile.

Paul's primary theme in Romans is the basic gospel, God's plan of salvation and righteousness for all humankind, Jew and Gentile alike. Although justification by faith has been suggested by some as the theme, it would seem that a broader theme states the message of the book more adequately. "Righteousness of God" includes justification by faith, but it also embraces such related ideas as guilt, sanctification and security.

Additional Learning and Sources:

Proverbs

- http://biblescripture.net/P roverbs.html
- https://www.biblestudytools.com/proverbs/
- https://www.presbyterian mission.org/wpcontent/uploads/biblestudy-guidesproverbs.pdf
- https://thebibleproject.co m/explore/proverbs/

Romans

- https://www.presbyterian mission.org/ministries/wo rship/christianyear/trinit y-sunday/
- https://thebibleproject.co m/explore/romans/
- https://www.blueletterbible e.org/study/intros/roman s.cfm
- https://www.biblica.com/r esources/scholarnotes/niv-studybible/intro-to-romans/