

## Trinity Sunday Year C

Proverbs 8:22-31, Romans 5.1-5, John 16:12-15

### The Mystery of Love's dance at the heart of God

In case you missed it last week was Pentecost and of course the Platinum Jubilee. I missed many of you at either event but I hope you had suitable celebrations wherever you were. There were of course some interesting revelations – not least what Her Majesty keeps in her handbag. I've always been partial to Marmalade sandwiches and often take one on a road trip for morning coffee. Perhaps a truer revelation was that many of the Royal Family like many of you are rather partial to **Strictly**. (I believe we may even have them hosting an episode from the palace!) Although I'm not an addict I do watch occasionally and at its best it conjures some beautiful and comic moments (though I tend to silence to blather of the judges). The point of dance is to witness and delight in something beyond words. My goodness what a delight in the last series when not only words but the music was switched off and we all for a moment entered the deaf world of Rose Ayling-Ellis the deaf Eastenders actor who danced so entrancingly. Such moments take us out of ourselves and into a special place

Today is Trinity Sunday. We are celebrating the mystery of the Holy Trinity. The Most Holy Trinity is the mystery of God. So often we want it explained and defined – It can end up like blather.

Delight beyond words is perhaps a more fruitful staring place and also after all the words a place to return. Explaining the love and wonder evoked in a dance, in music in a poem, in nature, in another is beyond and moves us beyond words. God creating redeeming and sustaining comes to us takes us out of ourselves and invites us to be part of a dance of love.

The three persons of the Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – together make up the Holy Trinity. This mystery we celebrate is not beyond human understanding though might be beyond our words at times. Distinction and unity, like water ice and steam are in our lives and universe but ultimately this mystery of God's loving relationship within himself is revealed for the sanctification of humanity.

This mystery is revealed to us today through the readings. The gospel presents the nature of the relationship between the three persons of the Most

Holy Trinity. According to Jesus in today's gospel, the love of the Most Holy Trinity is the love that leads to unity. The Holy Spirit teaches the love that exist between the three persons of the Most Holy Trinity. Through this love, the Father created, the Son redeemed and the Holy Spirit I sanctified. We are the beneficiaries of this love.

Our first reading tells of the glory of creation, as Wisdom herself rejoices in the unfolding of God's plan for the natural world we now inhabit. The psalm continued the theme of joy and praise for creation, reminding us of the power over all living things that God has given humankind and the responsibility that this brings.

The second reading affirms that the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. The expectation of the Trinity is that this love urges us towards holiness of life. Our love should reflect the love of the Holy Trinity. Faith links us to this gracious love of the Trinity – faith beckons us into the dance.

And dance of course involves not words but our whole body – when we use our body in the simplest of ways – making the sign of the cross – we are part of that dance. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And today is a day to glorify and delight in the relationship into which we are invited. Glory to the Father and the son and the Holy Spirit – not to be said glibly today. When we use our bodies to partake in Holy Communion we are are part of that dance – that is why Corpus Christi follows Trinity Sunday

We can dance by ourselves but how much more our hearts are lifted one when two or more persons somehow become one as they trust in each other. This is the place and beauty of the church gathered. There is something more, or should be than individuals in close proximity. Jesus says where two or three are gathered I am there – where He is the Father – where He is the Spirit is.

Of course there is risk – look at the risks God has taken for you and me. But dance of course involves trust and today glorifying the trust at the heart of God. We celebrate our trust in God, three persons: God the Father, the Creator of all; Jesus, God's Word made flesh; and the Spirit who teaches and guides us. We offer them our praise and glory three in one and one in three. And in doing these things we are not only invited to the dance as onlookers like an armchair judge on strictly but we join in.

In the name of the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit.

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