

Sunday, June 12, 2022 - The Holy Trinity – First Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: Psalm 8

*If you ever feel badly about yourself, read Psalm 8.
God created you to have dignity and to have dominion.*

3-5 - When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care
for them?
Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

“Who Am I” – song by Casting Crowns

Who am I, that the Lord of all the earth would care to know my name,
Would care to feel my hurt?
Who am I, that the Bright and Morning Star would choose to light the way
For my ever-wandering heart?
Not because of who I am, but because of what You've done.
Not because of what I've done, but because of who You are.

6-8 - You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under
their feet:
all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

*Genesis 1: 28 – Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over
the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the
earth.*

*Genesis 2: 19 – So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every
bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the
man called every living creature, that was its name.*

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-5

1-2 - Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus
Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand.

*The reason we can have peace with God is because of His grace – because we can be justified by
faith.*

What does it mean to you to say that grace is something in which we can stand?

*Galatians 1: 3 - Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ –
frequent opening of a letter from Paul*

3-5 - And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces
endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and 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.

When have you known suffering to produce endurance, endurance to produce character, and character to produce hope?

*We want things to be easy, or at least easier.
But what would happen to us if everything were easy?
Second half of the movie "Wall-E"*

*Discipline – whether it is in physical conditioning or in character development - we grow and gain strength as we face resistance – as we have to deal with the opposite
Discipline – doing what we can do so that then we can do what otherwise we would not be able to do
Best person to play an individual competitive sport against – someone who is a little bit better than you*

Psalms 19: 4-5 – In the heaven he has set a tent for the sun, which . . . like a strong man runs its course with joy.

*Richard Foster – A Celebration of Discipline – twelve spiritual disciplines
Four Inward Disciplines - meditation, prayer, fasting, study
Four Outward Disciplines - simplicity, solitude, submission, service
Four Corporate Disciplines - confession, worship, guidance, celebration*

Rafer Johnson and the Opening Ceremony for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles

Gospel: John 16:12-15 – What does the Holy Spirit do?

7 – It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

8 – When he comes, he will prove the world wrong (convict the world) about sin and righteousness and judgment.

12 - I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

Cf. learning all the technology in a new car

13 - When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears. He will declare to you the things that are to come.

14 - He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

1 Corinthians 12: 3 – No one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

Martin Luther's meaning to the Third Article of the Apostles Creed –

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.