

GOD'S WORD for THIS WEEK

Trinity Sunday

Sunday, 7th June 2020

The Holy Trinity (Rublev)

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:
Keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;
for you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.

The Old Testament Reading.

Isaiah 40: 12 - 17, 27- 31

¹² Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span,
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? ¹³ Who has directed the spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him?

¹⁴ Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding. ¹⁵ Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.

¹⁶ Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering.

¹⁷ All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹ but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

The Epistle

2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

11 Finally, brothers and sisters, * farewell.* Put things in order, listen to my appeal,* agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

13 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of* the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The Gospel

Matthew 28: 16-20

16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'*

Psalm 8

- 1 O Lord our governor,
how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised
out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
- 3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes,
that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 What is man, that you should be mindful of him;
the son of man, that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him little lower than the angels
and crown him with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given him dominion
over the works of your hands
and put all things under his feet,
- 8 All sheep and oxen,
even the wild beasts of the field,
- 9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea

and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.
10 O Lord our governor,
how glorious is your name in all the world!

Pointers for Prayer

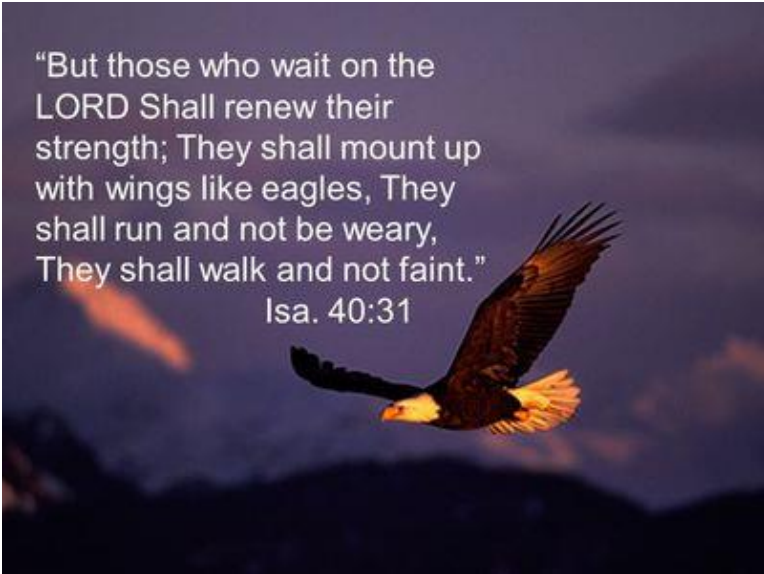
Again this week in the First Reading we are blessed by the words of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah in their description of God's power as witnessed through the beauty of his creation, the direction of his Spirit and God's everlasting power to hold us up. As the world holds its breath as restrictions are loosened, now is a time to trust in God that the answer will come to us regarding a cure for Covid19 and whether or not we are able to continue to release boundaries.

Now more than ever these words need to be kept close to our hearts: *Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.* ²⁹ *He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.*

Perhaps in a moment of silence you might like to read and re-read these words; allow them to sit deeply within you in the hope that, from them, might come strength for your particular journey.

What does it take to make a disciple? Jesus distinctly requests of his followers that, having received his word, they 'make disciples of all Nations'. When we think about Christ choosing just 12 people initially, it's interesting to note the type of people he chose. These were far from the higher echelons of power in society, nor were they members of any particular religious order (as far as we know) and yet, within their own lives, it is likely that they knew suffering and hardship at times. From this came a vulnerability and ability to be opened up to new understandings. They were chosen to be the vessels into which was poured the gift of the Spirit and a wisdom about God that, through them, spread outwards as the very foundations of our church today. You too are called as they were

Perhaps in a moment of silence you might like to ask the Spirit of God to re-fill you with a knowledge of his presence at this time; to remind you of the hope that he brings these words;



"But those who wait on the
LORD Shall renew their
strength; They shall mount up
with wings like eagles, They
shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint."
Isa. 40:31