

Jane Kilpatrick
 Sunday, May 30, 2021
 Trinity Sunday – Year B

Let us pray:

May the message shared be the message needing to be heard, O Lord our Strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have EVERLASTING life. There, I did it!”

I was so proud of myself. I had copied John 3:16 from my grandmother’s **King James Bible** and had perfectly recited it to our pastor, Dr. Standridge. After doing so, I hopped back in Momma’s lap. It was December 16, And I was eight years old, Dr. Standridge would be baptizing me – **in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit**, that coming Sunday, December 20.

During our time together, we asked and answered many questions. Then it was time to go downstairs for dinner and prayer meeting, BUT it **was** the week before Christmas, *and* I had *one* more question...“If God and Jesus are the same, then who looked after us when Jesus was a baby?” Little did I know that was the first question I would have about the Trinity.

The *Glossary of the Episcopal Church*, states, in part –

The Trinity is a perfect relationship of love In which **neither the UNITY nor Distinctiveness** of the divine persons is compromised.

As a church, that affirmation of the Trinity was formally documented, for the first time in AD 325 at the Council of Nicea. Each time we say the Nicene Creed, we reaffirm our belief in the Trinity.

Volumes have been published about the Trinity by theologians and biblical scholars so, with all due respect and I sincerely mean that – as a child of God, what **you** think, feel, believe, AND wonder about The Trinity Is important, too. Haven’t thought about it much? Understandable. Gave it some thought, Got confused – Gave it up...

Understandable. Not sure you want or need to think about it anymore?

Understandable. There are many things in our lives that will be of more benefit, increase our appreciation of our respect for, and our connection with if we gave them more thought.

The Trinity is no different. Who are the Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit and what does it mean to you that they are in **unity** as **One** for us? Who is God **for you** beyond, “The Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen,”? Who is Jesus **for you** beyond “the only Son of God, Who was, “eternally begotten of the Father,” Is, “God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,” Who was “begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father, And, Through whom, “all things were made.” And, who, “For you and for your salvation . . . “came down from heaven,” Then, “By the power of the Holy Spirit became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For your sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. Three days later he rose again And, “In accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven And now sits “at the right hand of the Father.” And **will** come **again** IN GLORY to judge the living and the dead, And whose kingdom will have no end. Who is the Holy Spirit, **to you** beyond “the Lord and the giver of Life Who proceeds from the Father and the Son. And, Who **with** the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, And who spoke through the Prophets? The Trinity is not just the “We,” in the church.

The Trinity was never intended to be a unity seemingly conjured up by a group of clergy in Nicea.

The Trinity is your God, your Jesus, and Your Holy Spirit to appreciate, respect, and connect with. Will you ever **understand** The Trinity? Not in this life. So, you will die wondering, “What is the Trinity?”

Dr. Standridge would want you to know . . . “That is an excellent question and the first one you should ask God when you get to heaven.”

To God be the Glory. Amen.