



**Church at Home 13
for Abridge
Sunday 7th June 2020
Trinity Sunday**



*The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with you all*
2 Corinthians 13:13

With all the welcome signs of the virus slowing down and restrictions beginning to be eased we must remember that we are not out of the woods yet and care must continue to be exercised. Certainly, there is no sign that centres of worship will be opening soon and the latest statement said not to expect any announcement until July. Possibly open-air services might be a future possibility but for now, thanks to all the contributors we bring you Church at Home 13.

Trinity Sunday for some may be the most baffling Sunday of the year. What with all the talk of Three in One and One in Three and persons and substance, the explanations can get very long winded. Questions are often raised by people of other faiths with requests to help them understand what could seem a nonsense.

For today the answer will be in a short length of 3 ply wool. If you have got one to hand, just unravel one end.

Today's Bible readings are: Isaiah 40: 17-21, 27-31, 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 and Matthew 28:16-20

To put us in a Trinity frame of mind, how [about singing](#) or saying the hymn:

Father, we adore you, lay our lives before you: how we love you!

Jesus, we adore you, lay our lives before you: how we love you!

Spirit, we adore you, lay our lives before you: how we love you!

Some other **suggested hymns and songs** for today:

[Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us](#), [Holy Holy Holy](#) and [Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God almighty](#)

Isaiah 40: 17-21, 27-31 as you can see is in two halves. The first half is a Professor Brian Cox view of the wonders of the universe to be marvelled at with the recognition that most is beyond our understanding. The second half is the connection with each and every individual giving all value and worth.

2 Corinthians 13:11-13 is Paul's urging to live in fellowship in the name of the Trinity.

and **Matthew 28:16-20** sends us out into all the world in the name of that same Trinity.

Take or imagine that piece of wool. It is there in front of you, its cut end facing you. Take each of the three ply and open them out. Each is still wool but inextricably bound to each other.

Remember the Trinity is not a theory or an explanation but an experience. Isaiah traced God the Father of creation from the widest horizon to the smallest individual. In Matthew the great commission was from the Son whom he had known and served. Paul binds the community in the spirit.

Whether we find God in the sunset, or the Gospel stories about Jesus, or in the fellowship of the saints around us each strand takes us to be bound up in the fulness of God the Trinity- the complete strand of

wool. You can pick the picture apart and acknowledge its weaknesses but remember it is not a theory but an experience to lead you on into all truth.

I wonder which part of Trinity Sunday most catches my attention?

I wonder which part puzzles me?

I wonder if it is especially for me this morning?

I wonder how Trinity Sunday might connect to what is happening in our world today?

To help you explore the story further, there is a **reflection sheet** and also some **all-age activities**, that you might like to use, if you have access to the internet. You can find these resources on the websites of the two churches and here are the links: www.lambournechurch.com www.abridgeevangelicalchurch.org

For our prayers, inspired by the Holy Spirit, let us remember:

- Those people who are being eased out of lockdown. May all act responsibly for the good of all.
- The government and its advisors as they plan how the lockdown should be eased and be seen to be acting consistently
- Those who are feeling the financial strain, those who have lost their jobs, those dependent on food banks, those still fearful of going to hospital, and those who are not eligible for any government help.
- Every family and individual who has lost someone they love to this virus.
- All key workers who continue to put themselves at risk to save lives. You may know of some by name for whom you can pray.
- Those who are still being treated in hospital this very day
- Those known to us overseas who are facing all this, perhaps with fewer resources

Add any particular people and situations that The Lord brings to your mind as you have been praying. End with **the Collect** below, followed by our family prayer, **The Lord's Prayer**.

Almighty and eternal God,
You have revealed yourself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love:
hold us firm in this faith,
that we may know you in all your ways
and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory,
who are three persons yet one God, now and for ever.

End your time of church-at-home by saying out loud the words of **The Grace**, reaching out your hands to include in your imagination all those you know and love, who live here in the village.



Please pray for: wise decisions about reopening churches and the Lambourne assemblies taking place on zoom on Mondays at 10.00

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