



Trinity Sunday  
Year A  
June 7, 2020

Key Scripture - Genesis 1:4

And God saw that the light was good;...

Theme -

What Did God See?



*Welcome All*

† Newcomers please sign our guestbook



† Special requests may be made through Facebook



**Contact Us**

† Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.

- Trinity is an Affirming Congregation and is inclusive of folk who find themselves a part of what is described as “LGBTQ+”
- Our church building is closed but our Congregation is Open and Active in a Ministry of Prayer, Service and Care
- Church business will be conducted remotely as much as possible
- Worship will be recorded and posted to FaceBook and our WebPage

## Welcome and Announcements

This week's Phone Tree Message - 3 June 2020

It was wonderful to see folk on Saturday at the geranium tables. It is clear that we are eager to see each other in safe ways.

As the weather warms and restrictions seem to be easing, please continue to be careful. It may be uncomfortable for some to believe that they are categorized as part of the "Vulnerable Population," however, we did not choose how the virus acts or for whom it represents the greatest threat. Even though we may exercise caution, there will always be a certain percentage of folk who push the limits and compromise your efforts.

Our community, region and province may be making the first, tentative steps to a new normal. As part of the vulnerable population, we would be wise to "wait and see" before we take full advantage of what is just the beginning stage. Stay safe and encourage the people you love to remain so.

- Comfort

*Lord Jesus Christ,*

*you taught us to love our neighbour,  
and to care for those in need  
as if we were caring for you.*

*In this time of anxiety, give us strength  
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,  
and to assure the isolated  
of our love, and your love,  
for your name's sake.*

*Amen.*

*From the Church of England - Prayers about the outbreak*

*In these days of turmoil and protest  
we pray for those who have lived with  
inequity, discrimination and fear.  
Where there is chaos,  
we pray for a new creation  
where we can all see and say, “It is good.”*

*We pray for those who work to keep our Community safe.  
We are grateful for all members of  
the Smiths Falls Police Service  
women and men guided by “Community First.”  
May they know our gratitude and support and  
God’s Grace and Protection.*

*Amen.*

- Communication
  - Trinity United Church News and Updates -
    - Our Congregation is active in Prayer, Care and Service
    - Worship Services are replayed
      - On COGECO - Your TV Sundays at 10:00 and 2:00
      - On the Trinity Web Page and FaceBook at our regular Service Time, 10:30 Sunday Morning
    - **This Sunday’s Scripture speaks to a Cycle of Progress -**
      - **Key Scripture - Genesis 1:4**
        - “And God saw that the light was good;...”
      - **God paused at each step in creation to evaluate, settle into the new reality and to prepare for next steps.**
      - **No matter how we understand the phases of Creation, it is clear that it proceeded in measured steps.**
      - **We speak of a “New Normal” and some speculate as to what our new reality will be.**

- **Like that first Creation Narrative, may our movement to a post COVID-19 world reflect careful movement, wise evaluation and intentional pauses.**
- **Wear a Mask.** Arlene Hunter can help, as can our Brown Bag and Blessings Folk who distribute them on Tuesday and Saturday mornings.
- Please contact Betty Lou Kempt at 613-291-0701 if you would like more information regarding Food or Mask distribution or if you would like to help.
- We are able to deliver lunches to your home.
  - Cynthia Sirett and the Christian Community Team organized the delivery of 31 lunches this week. I would like to note that the last time I shared what the intent was ... it turned out that we delivered 14 more than planned. No matter what happens between the plan and fulfillment, we pray for each person as the lunch is assembled.
  - If a lunch delivered to your home would be helpful, we will serve as we are able. Contact the Office.
- **The kitchen floor has been replaced and it is beautiful, functional and robust. We would like to thank the kind donations from Al McFadden, Bud and Gloria Fawcett and Joan Onion.**
- We are mindful about finances
  - **The Stewardship Team would like to thank everyone who supported the Geranium Sale. Every plant was purchased. We are grateful for those who got up early to pick up the Geraniums and those who stayed late to deliver them. Barb and Mike would like to thank June and Joanne for their help. Trinity is grateful and offers thanks to**

**Barb, Mike and all who worked hard to make this a success.**

- Please consider Pre-Authorized Payments (PAR) as a consistent way to support the congregation
- Grocery / Gift Cards are still available for sale -  
Contact the Church Office at - 613 283 4444
- In recent days speculation has increased as to when and how COVID-19 measures may be relaxed. **Please remember that as we begin to consider the future, nothing has changed for today.**
  - **Our guiding principle will be exclusively your health and safety -**
    - **We will not rush or push the limits of what is permitted**
    - **We do not anticipate a change in our disposition in the near term**
- Connection
  - It is difficult to speak to another person's experience if it is impossible for you to be subject to the same concern. Few of us at Trinity, therefore, can speak to a lived experience of racism. Few of us at Trinity can speak to a bad experience of Policing.
  - We are, however, connected to all around us, even if our experiences are different, and we can pray for equity and justice. We can pray, too, for the folk who serve us through the Smiths Falls Police Services.
  - If you would like the latest posts from the church but have not been receiving updates by email, we may not have your address.
- Care
  - The Healing Pathway Team and others are actively praying together starting at 1:00 pm every Wednesday.

If you want to be contacted regularly by phone, contact the church and let us know - the church office number is - 613 283 4444

### COVID-19 Community Meal Distribution Points

Monday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican Delivery Only	11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Tuesday	Trinity United Church - Brown Bag & Blessing Front Foyer - 41 Market Street	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Wednesday	St Francis de Sales - St. Vincent de Paul Society 4 McGill St (Hanley Hall)	12:00 - 12:30 pm
Thursday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican Delivery Only	11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Friday	Mississippi Rideau Lakes - Salvation Army 251 Brockville St	11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday	Trinity United Church - Volunteers from - SFDCI Front Foyer - 41 Market Street	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Sunday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican Delivery Only	11:00 am - 12:30 pm



We are grateful for the Town of Smiths Falls and Lanark County. Take Away Meals offered during this State of Emergency are subsidized through the generosity of the Community Grant Program and COVID-19 emergency funds.

We are grateful for the teachers and staff of SFDCI and Duncan J. Schoular Public School who volunteer on Saturdays.

Two Guys for Lunch are active partners with us in this community service.

Conditions under which the food is prepared is consistent with best practices respecting COVID-19

## **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

*Elements of today's Worship Service are drawn and adapted from the Presbyterian Church in Canada online Worship Planner.*

**Introit** 318 "Christ Be With Me"

## **Call to Worship**

O Lord, our Creator,

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Your glory is above the heavens and surrounds us in the world.

**And so we praise you!**

When we look at your heavens, the moon and stars, the work of your fingers,

**Who are we to praise you?**

Yet you have made us in your image and set us in this world you love.

**And so we come to worship you and learn to care for your earth.**

## **Prayer of Gathering**

Creator God,

We gather with joyful hearts to seek your holy presence.

You spoke, and the world came into being,  
in beauty and in balance between all things.

In loving partnership, you made humankind in your image  
and called us to walk with you in creation.

When we wandered away,

You came to us in Jesus, to show us how to live in this world

and how to love you and each other more fully.  
Your Holy Spirit keeps coming to us,  
to guide us the work of your kingdom.  
In all ways and for all time, you are with us,  
and so we worship you in love and gratitude,  
trusting you will never leave us, ever Three and ever One.

**Amen.**

**Hymn** 315 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee;  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which were, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;  
holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

### **Learning with Children**

When you colour, everybody does the same thing. You look at what you are doing, you do it, then you stop and look at it again.

This look is to evaluate what you did, make changes or declare that it is good. Then you look at the next step, you pick a crayon and colour to a point, you stop, look at it and evaluate and then decide your next step. You never go to the next step until you are happy with the last...

The way God created the world follows the same pattern.

God worked, looked and said, "Oh, I like that." Then God went to the next step.

### **Call to Reconciliation**

Let us pause. Let us look at our lives in the light of God's Spirit and acknowledge any chaos we might see.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**God our Creator, we confess that we have not lived wisely in your creation,**

**so the earth suffers.**

**God our Redeemer, we have not valued ourselves or one another as those made in your image,**

**so our relationships are strained.**

**God our Sustainer, we have not trusted in your loving guidance, so we follow paths that lead to foolish ends.**

**Forgive our mistakes.**

**Call us back to your loving presence and teach us again how to follow you.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Paul declared that, from now on, we regard no one from a human point of view. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Everything old has passed away. See, everything has become new!

Thanks be to God that we can all make a new start this day and every day.

## Scripture

Genesis 1:1–2 ; Psalm 8; Matthew 28:16–20

### Genesis 1:1-5 (NRSV)

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

### Psalm 8 (VU 732)

The image shows a musical score for Psalm 8 (VU 732) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff for the melody and a bass clef staff for the accompaniment. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

O God, our God, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth!

O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!  
From the lips of infants and children your praises reach up to the heavens.  
You have set up a stronghold against your foes,  
to quell the enemy and the avenger. R

When I look to the heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their places,  
what are we mortals that you should be mindful of us,  
mere human beings that you should care for us? R

You have made us little less than divine,  
and crowned us with glory and honour.

You have made us rulers over all your creation,  
and put all things under our feet,  
all sheep and cattle, all creatures of the wild,  
the birds of the air and the fish in the sea,  
and all that make their way through the waters. R

Matthew 28:16–20 (NRSV)

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

**Hymn** 325 "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the church in one;  
holy Zion's help for ever, and its confidence alone.

To this temple where we call you, come, O Lord of Hosts, today;  
with your faithful loving-kindness hear your servants as they pray,  
and your fullest benediction shed within its walls always.

Here bestow on all your servants what they ask of you to gain;  
what they gain from you for ever with the blessed to retain,  
and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father, laud and honour to the Son,  
laud and honour to the Spirit, ever three and ever one,

one in mighty, and one in glory, while unending ages run.

## Reflection

Today is the first Sunday of June. The days are suddenly longer and full of light. It is fortuitous that the Hebrew Scripture carries in it that one bit of Scripture that almost everybody knows and has quoted from time to time, *God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good.* Light is good. Light is not always comfortable, though.

My first posting as a Military Chaplain was to Formation Halifax whereupon I was almost immediately sent to the Fleet. From there, I was assigned to ships of all types; some for days, some for weeks, some for months. I sailed as much and as long as was permitted. I was full on "Good to Go." I was not always "full on wise."

In the beginning, lacking wisdom and subscribing to the myths repeated in popular Chaplain lore, I became what I would shortly and still today regard as a cartoon version of what Ministry at sea ... including alongside in foreign ports, looked like. Cartoon Christopher, however, changed ... and in relative short order.

The Captain of a ship in which I was scheduled to sail for a long deployment called me to his cabin. He had heard an unfavourable report. He repeated it back to me. Cartoon Christopher was something of a hard charger in the sense that I played well with others and while I might have been acclaimed to fame amongst Pirates... I was less so, with the Command Team I was about to serve. So, the Captain repeated the report.

My response was, "Yes, Sir. What you heard is true."

"Good," he said, "I just wanted to bring it to the light."

My response, again, was, "Yes, Sir."

That was it. In an instant, my ministry changed. A little light goes a long way.

That was it, only light - no judgement, no condemnation, no

warnings, no animosity, no reservation, no excuses or no promises. Only light. The light was good although not everything illuminated was likewise good. With that, I was welcomed aboard.

*In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good;*

What did God see? *God saw that the light was good*

But *the earth was a formless void* ... This did not change. On this first day of Creation, all that came into being was light. Light was the only change. No judgement, no condemnation, no excuses - only light. If there was chaos, it remained unaddressed but revealed. If there was formlessness, it remained unaddressed but revealed. If there was anything in this pre-creation order that required remediation or change, it was not addressed on this first day. All that changed was *there was light*. In that light, God could see the emptiness or chaos that was there and remained there. **In that light** reality was revealed and on that first day, this was enough *And God saw that the light was good*. God also saw the chaos and void that remained.

Light has **again** been shed on a manifestation of what is described as systemic racism in the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota. While we may take comfort in believing that this event is far away from us, **light shines a long way**. Light is good. Light is always good. **Light reveals everything and everywhere it touches and light shines a long way**.

This morning, we will not reflect in moralizing, or judgemental ways. We will not condemn, add commentary, elevate ourselves as somehow

different and enlightened. We will not be defensive. Let us simply say, ***“Let there be light.”*** And let us let that light be light. Let us let that light do what light does. Let us look honestly at what that light reveals close to home. That light, it seems, shines too often on the same chaos or formless void. Let us not argue with it or push it back. Let us permit that light to do its good work.

Today is the first Sunday of June. The days are suddenly longer and full of light. We enter June with a light shining on racism.

June is LGBT Pride month. Let us call light to fall upon the treatment of Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender folk. June is also National Indigenous History Month in Canada. Let us call light to fall upon the treatment of our Indigenous folk, ... including Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Let us stand in that light. Let us acknowledge that the light is good. Let us see honestly and without a defensive fear of condemnation at what the light of June reveals.

AMEN.

**Hymn 87 "I Am the Light of the World"**

***Chorus -***

***I am the Light of the World***

***You people come and follow me.***

***If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery***

***Of what you were meant to do and be.***

***Chorus -***

When the song of the angels is stilled.

When the star in the sky is gone.

When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home.

The work of Christmas is begun!

***Chorus -***

To find the lost and lonely one,  
To heal that broken soul with love,  
To feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,  
To feel the earth below the sky above!

To free the prisoner from his chains,  
To make the powerful care,  
To rebuild the nations with strength and goodwill,  
To call a man your brother everywhere.

***Chorus -***

To bring hope to every task you do,  
To dance at a baby's new birth,  
To make music in an old man's heart,  
And sing to the colors of the earth!

**We Respond to God's Word  
Offering Ourselves  
For The Work And Witness Of The Church**

**Invitation to Offering**

In this season of Pentecost, we celebrate the outpouring of God's Spirit upon the Church, filling it with the gifts needed to serve in Jesus' name. As we present our offering, may God fill us with the gift of generosity so that our love overflows in the example of Christ himself.

**We Give Through Service**

Betty Lou Kempt will speak about "Brown Bags and Blessings"

## Trinity Needs Your Help

During these trying times, Trinity's life and work continues in many ways. While our Sunday services and many other things in our lives are on hold until further notice, and our building is closed, our staff and members are still active and operational costs continue.

There will be no opportunity for the regular collection of offerings each week, so Trinity needs you to share your gifts in a different way. We have 4 options:

1. Please visit the [www.trinityunitedsf.ca](http://www.trinityunitedsf.ca) and use the "DONATE" button. It takes you to CanadaHelps.org where you can make a safe and secure, one time or monthly donation as often as you want.
2. This may also be a good time to start using Pre-authorized Payments. The form for that is attached to this post and can be printed off and mailed to the church office at 41 Market Street / PO Box 28, Smiths Falls, K7A 2E7
3. We have also set up an e-transfer account to accept your donation. Please use [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca) . Password not required. Please note your envelope number and amount allocated to general church expenses, M&S. and/or capital projects.
4. Of course you can always mail a donation to the church office at 41/ PO Box 28 Market Street, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7

If you require assistance or have any questions about making donations, please do not hesitate to contact the church office at 613-283-4444 or by email at [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca).

Thank you.

### Offering Prayer

Generous God, thank you for all we have received from you which brings us hope and joy. Bless the gifts we bring, so that they may accomplish your purposes in the name of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

**Meditation** "Fantasia on 'Old Hundredth'"

### Prayers of the People

God of our past and our future, God of healing and hope,

We come before you with grateful hearts,  
trusting that you walk with us through all the times of our lives,  
including this strange time of illness and isolation.  
You are still the God of our history and God of the world you love,  
so hear us as we pray for your world and the people around us.

We remember today those who face danger and despair in these  
times:

Those who suffer the effects of coronavirus in their lives and in  
the lives of loved ones;  
those living with hunger while the world is distracted,  
those caught up in unrest and violence despite the pandemic,  
and all whose lives are directed by forces beyond their control...

We pray for all those working to relieve suffering of many different  
kinds  
and bring justice and peace to those most vulnerable.

We pray for all those facing fear or frustration,  
and those wrestling with sorrow or discouragement.

We remember those who live with illness, disability or pain day by  
day,  
and all who know the grief and change of bereavement...

We pray for all who feel helpless or hopeless in this present time of  
such uncertainty:

For those facing unemployment or struggling to make ends  
meet,

For those caught up in misunderstanding or broken relationships  
And for those working through situations of conflict at home or  
at work...

We pray for the family of George Floyd and all who share a common burden of racial discrimination.

We pray for all who face taunts, exclusion and discrimination based on Gender Identification or Sexual Orientation.

We pray for the work of reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours. We pray justice for those who continue to suffer, to mourn, to live in uncertainty and fear as we remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

We pray for all who offer guidance and support in the midst of such difficulties.

*In these days of turmoil and protest  
we pray for those who have lived with  
inequity, discrimination and fear.  
Where there is chaos,  
we pray light  
we pray a new creation  
where we can all see and say, "It is good."*

*We pray for those who work to keep our Community safe.  
We are grateful for all members of  
the Smiths Falls Police Service  
women and men guided by "Community First."  
May they know our gratitude and support and  
God's Grace and Protection.*

We are thankful that we can experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength, courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - Mother, Father, Friend -

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer;

may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever  
Amen

### **We Depart to Serve with Joy**

#### **Hymn 420 "Go To The World"**

Go to the world! Go into all the earth;  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.  
Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go into every place;  
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace;  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;

The nights of tears give way to joyful day.  
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Alleluia.

Go to the World! Go as the ones I send,  
For I am with you till the age shall end,  
When all the host of glory cry, "Amen."  
Alleluia

**Benediction-** 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 (NRSV)

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  
Greet one another with a holy kiss.  
All the saints greet you.

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

**Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "St Patrick's Breastplate" (St. Patrick)