

JUNE 16, 2019
TRINITY SUNDAY



Experiencing the peace of God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 16:12-15	The Spirit will guide you
Monday	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	The gifts of wisdom
Tuesday	Romans 5:1-5	Experiencing God's peace
Wednesday	Isaiah 55:10-13	God's people celebrate
Thursday	Ephesians 4:1-6	Unity in the body of Christ
Friday	Philippians 4:4-9	Paul encourages believers
Saturday	Psalms 8	The wonderful name of the Lord
Sunday	Luke 8:26-39	Jesus casts out demons

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ **Romans 5:1 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear Triune God, you who are filled with mystery and wonder, fill us with peace, the strength to endure, a loving character, and hope that does not fail us. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We are thankful for food and pray for sharing God's peace. May we speak words of praise to God and never, ever cease. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who creates life and hope, who redeems our lives from the grave, and who sustains us through all our sorrows, be with us now and forever.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
God, Whose Almighty Word



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is something you have learned through experience (e.g., travels, playing an instrument, or sports)?
- How have experiences made a difference in your life?
- How have you experienced God through times of joy or times of suffering?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 5:1-5.

It is not easy to define the Trinity. The Trinity is better understood by experiencing the God who gives us peace, undeserved kindness, endurance, character, and hope. That is how God is presented in Romans 5. The God of the Bible shown most clearly in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus and the God "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5:5) is the Triune God, one God in three persons. What is critical for us to know is that God comes to us in human experiences, especially the experience of suffering. Happy times can deceive us, but times of suffering and pain give us an experience of life at its most honest and jarring levels. Experiences of suffering force us to face our lives, its limitations, and its hopes. Thanks be to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit that from the cross we have a God who joins us in our suffering and leads us to lives of faith filled with endurance, character, and hope—hope in the God of the Trinity. How has God been revealed to you during difficult experiences?

Pray: **Dear God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be my strength and hope through all my experiences of joy and suffering. Amen.**

SERVICE

Today is recognized in the United States as a day to honor fathers. Not all children are fortunate to be raised by a father and for many, it is a day to grieve the loss of a father. Those who experience these losses have a different perspective on fatherhood. Spend a moment in silence to think about the gift of God, the Heavenly Father in your life. Think of a father you know or someone who has been a father figure in your life. Give thanks for this person. Contact them and thank them for being part of your life.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

A doxology is an expression of praise to God. A very well-known doxology was written in 1709 by an Anglican bishop, Bishop Thomas Ken. It is a tradition around the world for congregations to sing or say this treasured doxology. Sing or say this hymn of praise to God before meals or before bedtime: **Praise God from who all blessing flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



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