

Theme for Sunday, June 19, 2011
The Sunday of the Holy Trinity



“The God who Creates and Re-creates”
The Creation Story from Genesis chapters 1 and 2

In Genesis, we see a picture of a God who caringly brings all things into existence. However, that picture of God’s care for His creatures has not reached its fullest brightness until we see the Lord in his loving work of restoring a sinful and broken world.

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**Connecting Points:
Our Vision in Action**

Take a short walk this week and take time to notice all of God's creation around you. Then go home and write all your observations on a piece of paper or in a prayer journal, thanking God for His care for all His creatures.

Invite a friend or neighbor over for a cookout just to enjoy the weather and the beauty of God's creation. See if you can create a casual conversation about your creator God.

Connecting People to Christ Now and Forever

Introit

Psalm 8

- L: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
C: **You have set Your glory above the heavens.**
L: Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
C: **You have established strength because of Your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.**
L: When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
C: **The moon and the stars, which You have set in place,**
L: What is man that You are mindful of him,
C: **And the son of man that You care for him?**
L: Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
C: **And crowned him with glory and honor.**
L: You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands;
C: **You have put all things under his feet,**
L: All sheep and oxen,

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C: And also the beasts of the field,

L: The birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,

C: **Whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

L: O LORD, our Lord,

C: **How majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

ALL: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson **Selected verses from Genesis chapters 1 and 2**
(God caringly invests Himself in his creation as He makes all things.)

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." And it was so. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

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¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

¹Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation

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Epistle Lesson

Colossians 1: 15 – 20

(St. Paul's words refute the false teaching that Jesus is merely another of God's creatures. Christ is, in fact, our visible image of the Creator and Redeemer.)

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28: 16 – 20

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(God the Father has given Christ, the Son, authority over all things. Christ sends out His followers to do God's caring work in the world with the assurance that He is with us.)

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷And when they saw him they worshiped 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, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

God Bless You!