

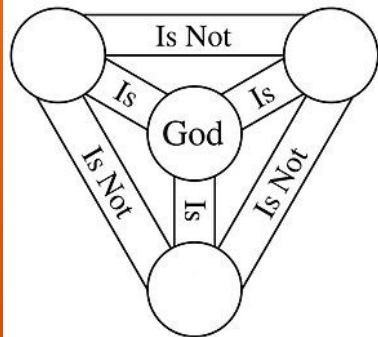
Trinity Sunday

June 7, 2020

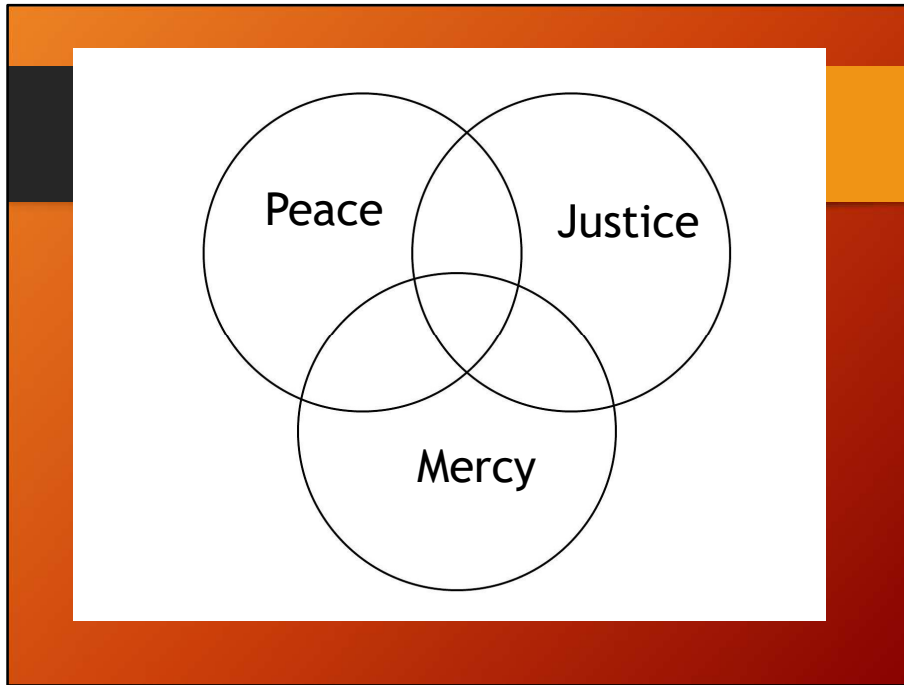
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The Trinity



We understand God as three persons, but one essence. All different, but one God. It's hard to explain, so we use pictures or music or share our stories about experiencing God as warm and bright and energetic sunlight.



God is with us, God desires peace. God loves us and has parented the human race through all its growing pains, its selfish pride, its defiance, its jealousies, wanderings away, and violence against one another. God is patient with us... God is patient with me. God is patient with you.

God however doesn't want us to remain prideful, selfish and angry. The Law of God is fair and has been given early and often. God desires Justice...The ten commandments given at Mt Sinai, the two most important commandments (Love the Lord your God with everything & Love Neighbor as Yourself), and Christ's words "You have heard it said, but I say to you." Upon such, God dolls out justice. Always with warning – but sometimes in ways we don't understand or not soon enough or not in the way we thought.

Finally, God desires to give mercy. Jesus was sent to earth to provide all access to God's mercy for every sin, every defiance, every wrong we chose or fell into.



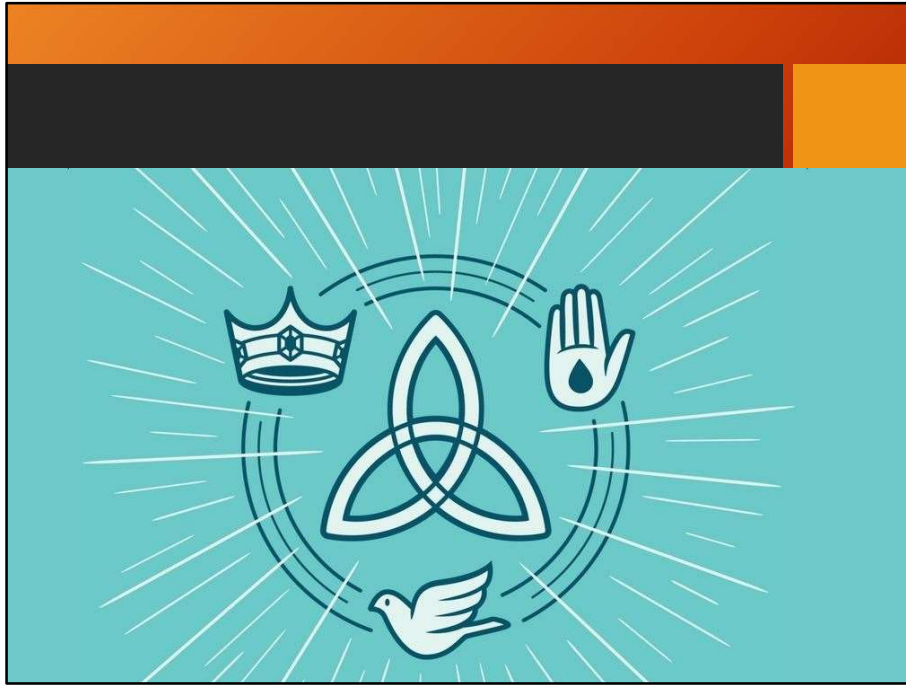
God created everything, we fell and stand in need of forgiveness. What God desires now is the Full Restoration of his creation – full restoration is where Peace and Justice and Mercy meet – where they overlap and exist perfectly. In 2 Corinthians 13:11, one of Paul’s exhortations or commands is to “Strive for full restoration.” This can only happen when and where people who disagree, people who have wronged one another, people who are created in God’s image humble themselves.

Drop your iDruthers



I'd rather...
...drop my cell phone than admit
that I am causing someone's pain.

In order to do this, we need to drop our iDruthers. That's something my grandmother would use when my sister and I would rather get what we want and not what the other wanted or what our parents wanted. For example, what to watch on TV – Nickelodeon or Disney? Grandma would say, drop your "I'd Ruthers" and work out a compromise. Change to something you both want or one watch now and the other later. Grandmothers are often wise – so in life, especially in this crazy time – my direction is Drop your iDruthers, apologize, and work on a mutually respectful resolution – striving for full restoration with one another.



In Matthew 28:20 as part of the Great Commission that gets the least sermon time - Jesus proclaims we should be about teaching everyone to obey everything Christ commanded his disciples. That's a high bar, a tough expectation, but a holy and good thing to strive for. So when we drop out iDruthers, we should pick up what Jesus would rather. Teaching things like patience and mercy, understanding and communication, peace, and justice and mercy. Striving for the full restoration of creation. AMEN.