

Suggestions for the Second Sunday before Pentecost

Passages from the Word

Psalm 111

Joel 2:28-32

Matthew 28:16-20

John 14:15-26

The Teachings of the New Church

164 THERE IS A DIVINE TRINITY CONSISTING OF FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT

The existence of a Divine Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – is plainly demonstrated in the Word, especially in the following passages:

The angel Gabriel said to Mary, *The Holy Spirit* will come upon you, and *the power of the Most High* will overshadow you, so that the holy thing that is born of you will be called *the Son of God*. Luke 1:35.

Here all three are named: the Most High, who is God the Father, the Holy Spirit, and the Son of God.

When Jesus was baptised, behold, the heavens were opened, and John saw *the Spirit of God* coming down like a dove, and alighting upon Him; and a voice from heaven saying, This is *my beloved Son*, in whom I am well pleased.

Matt.3:16,17; Mark 1:10,11; John 1:32.

It is even clearer in the words which the Lord used to the disciples:

Go and make all nations disciples, baptising then in the name of *the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*. Matt.28:19.

Moreover in this passage of John:

Three there are that bear witness in heaven, *the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit*.

1 John 5:7.

In addition there is the fact that the Lord prayed to the Father and spoke about Him and with Him, saying that He would send the Holy Spirit, and this too He did. Moreover, the Apostles frequently named in the Epistles the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These passages show plainly that there is a Divine Trinity consisting of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

166 THOSE THREE, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT ARE THE THREE ESSENTIALS OF A SINGLE GOD, WHICH MAKE ONE AS SOUL, BODY, AND ACTIVITY DO WITH A PERSON

(For the above, and more, please see Chapter 3 of **True Christian Religion**

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Hymns

26 At the name of Jesus tune Camberwell or Evelyne 6 5 6 5 D

327 Our blessed Redeemer tune St Cuthbert 8 6 8 4

Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, grant renewal to us your people,
and grant renewal to your whole Church:
renewal of love for you and for one another;
renewal of faith in your promises and in the power of the gospel;
renewal of vision for the work of your kingdom throughout the world.
Renew our lives, O Christ, after your own image.
Renew us by your indwelling Holy Spirit,
and make us strong for service and witness,
in your name and for your glory.

Frank Colquhoun

O Lord, we acknowledge that You alone are our instructor. We thank you for all teaching and preaching, for every way by which knowledge of Your truth passes from minister to people, from teacher to scholar, from friend to friend. We confess that all truth is Yours, entrusted to our stewardship. And we thank You for all enlightenment, for all joy that a child has in Your Word, for all reason that a young person sees in revelation, for all enlightenment that turns knowledge into truth and learning into wisdom. Grant that we may put away selfishness and open our minds to you, that in Your light we may see light.

Book of Worship (1971) *slightly altered*

A Reflection

The Brick

The bricklayer laid a brick on the bed of cement.
Then, with a precise stroke of his trowel spread another layer
And without a by-your-leave, laid on another brick.
The foundations grew visibly,
The building rose, strong and tall, to shelter men.

I thought, Lord, of that brick in the darkness at the base
of the big building.
No one sees it, but it accomplished its task, and the other
bricks need it.
Lord, what difference whether I am on the roof-top or in the
foundations of your building, as long as I stand faithfully
at the right place?

Michel Quoist