Sunday, June 15, 2025 - Meditation

It's Trinity Sunday, a day when we ponder the mystery of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One God, three persons. I'm not going to expound on the meaning of the Trinity, much less try to explain this mystery in rational terms. Which is one of the beauties of our Christian faith. We accept the mystery precisely because it goes beyond our ability to explain or rationalize. It is beyond human understanding. Yet we accept it by faith.

Having said that, I would like to submit that the Holy Spirit tends to receive less attention. We affirm the Holy Spirit in our liturgy, but I wonder how much we think in terms of the Holy Spirit having much to do with our daily lives. God is our Father, Jesus is our Savior, but who is the Holy Spirit to us? We pray to the Father. We pray to Jesus the Son. Have we ever prayed to the Holy Spirit? Shocking? I was startled when a seminary professor began

his lectures with "Blessed Spirit of Christ." I had never heard that before.

And yet the Scriptures today illustrate three ways the Holy Spirit is revealed to us. In Proverbs, though not mentioned specifically, one could argue that the Holy Spirit is present in the person of Wisdom. "When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth." That sounds very familiar: "Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." The Holy Spirit is the Wisdom of God who was present in the very beginning: "When he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker." The Holy Spirit is present in all of God's creation. With His eyes we can behold the wonder of all that God made. Despite how much the earth may have been despoiled, when God made it he said it was good. And when he made

the human race, he said it was VERY good. When God was creating, Wisdom was “rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.” To have the eyes of wisdom is to see God in his creation, to see there is goodness.

Likewise in our gospel reading, Jesus refers to him as the Spirit of truth who will guide his disciples into all the truth. The Holy Spirit shows us who Jesus is. He is the practical presence of the risen Jesus. He is the one who makes Jesus real to us, who brings to us his living presence. He declares to us that Jesus is the truth. I did not come to faith in Christ easily. Not having grown up in the church I had to start from scratch, and it was very important to me that I believe in something that was true. Never mind if it worked, if it gave peace or joy. I wanted to know if it was true. Not that I don't still have doubts, but the central moment for me came when I accepted Jesus as the truth. And I believe it was the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is revealed to us as wisdom and truth. In Paul's letter to the Romans, the Holy Spirit is revealed to us as hope. "We boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God." And through the suffering that every believer faces, it produces the hope that he is present with us now in the flesh assuring us of sharing the glory of God when he makes all things new. "And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

Has the Holy Spirit revealed himself to you as Wisdom, as the Truth, as Hope? What have been those moments? On this Trinity Sunday, may we open our hearts to the presence of the Holy Spirit—God's Wisdom, Truth, and Hope.