

The Triune God: God, The Father

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – January 25, 2009

Matthew 3:16-17

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Trinity. A Holy Mystery. Not completely understood by our limited mind.

1. THERE IS ONE GOD

Deuteronomy 6:4

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, **the LORD is one.**

2. THERE IS ONE GOD, THREE PERSONS (FATHER, SON, HOLY SPIRIT)

Matthew 3:16-17 (Jesus' Baptism)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 28:19 (Great Commandment of Jesus)

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of **the Father** and of **the Son** and of **the Holy Spirit.**

2 Corinthians 13:14 (Paul's Blessing)

May the **grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**, and the **love of God**, and the **fellowship of the Holy Spirit** be with you all.

3. GOD IS THREE PERSONS, ONE DIVINE NATURE

> **The Father is God**

Ephesians 4:4-5

4 There is one body and one Spirit- just as you were called to one hope when you were called- 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 **one God and Father of all**, who is over all and through all and in all.

> **The Son is God**

Matthew 1:23

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"-which means, "**God with us.**"

John 20:27-28

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." 28 Thomas said to him, "**My Lord and my God!**"

> **The Holy Spirit is God**

Acts 5:3-4

3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that **you have lied to the Holy Spirit** and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4 Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? **You have not lied to men but to God.**"

4. GOD HAS ONE DIVINE NATURE, THREE DISTINCT PURPOSES

> **God, The Father (Creator)**

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

> **God, The Son (Redeemer)**

Matthew 1:21

[Mary] will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because **he will save his people from their sins.**"

> **God, The Holy Spirit (Sanctifier)**

Romans 15:15-16

15 I have written you quite boldly on some points, as if to remind you of them again, because of the grace God gave me 16 to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles with the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, **sanctified by the Holy Spirit.**

5. GOD ACTS IN UNITY TO FULFILL HIS PURPOSES.

Unity at CREATION:

> **God, The Father**

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

> **God, The Son**

Colossians 1:15-18

15 He [Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For **by him all things were created:** things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

> **God, The Holy Spirit**

Genesis 1:2

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.**

Unity in REDEMPTION:

> **God, The Father (Initiator)**

John 3:16

"For **God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son**, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

> **God, The Son**

Galatians 3:13

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.

> **God, The Holy Spirit (Conceived, Anointed & Empowered)**

Luke 1:35 (Conceived)

The angel answered, "**The Holy Spirit will come upon you**, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Luke 4:18 (Anointed)

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because **he has anointed me** to preach good news to the poor.

Luke 3:22 (Empowered)

the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.

Unity in SANCTIFICATION:

God, The Holy Spirit

Romans 15:15-16

sanctified by the Holy Spirit

God, The Father

Matthew 10:20

it will not be you speaking, but **the Spirit of your Father** speaking through you.

God, The Son

Romans 8:9

You, however, are **controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit**, if the **Spirit of God** lives in you. And if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he does not belong to Christ.

John 14:16-17

16 And **I will ask the Father**, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever- 17 **the Spirit of truth.**

John 14:26

But the Counselor, **the Holy Spirit**, whom **the Father will send in my name**, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 15:26

26 "When the Counselor comes, whom **I will send to you from the Father**, the **Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father**, he will testify about me.

6. GOD CALLS FOR HIMSELF, ONE PEOPLE

John 10:30

"**I and the Father are one.**"

John 17:22

"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that **they may be one as we are one.**"

1 Peter 2:9

But you are **a chosen people**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **a people belonging to God**, that you may declare the praises of him who **called you out of darkness** into his wonderful light.

1 Corinthians 10:17

Because there is **one loaf**, we, who are many, are **one body**, for we all partake of the one loaf.