



Raquette Lake Chapel Sunday Blast

June 4, 2023

“Trinity Sunday and The Great Commission”

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” [Matthew 28:16-20, NRSV]

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20 is often referred to as the Great Commission. It takes place after Jesus' resurrection and serves as a significant moment in the gospels when Jesus gives his final instructions before ascending into heaven. Several fundamental tenants of Christianity are revealed to us: one, how we are to live our lives (the great commission), and, two, a reminder of the nature of the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



The Great Commission “Calling and Vocation”

For several weeks our Sunday Blasts have used the term “dignity” or “Christian dignity.” We can continue to think of that meaning narrowly, a way to describe someone’s demeanor, but a better way is to think of it as a way of life: a guide we are called upon to live into. Christianity teaches that God is actively involved in redeeming and reconciling the world to Himself. This redemptive work began with the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and continues through the work of the Holy Spirit. It encompasses the transformation of individuals, communities, and the entire creation. We are called on to continue that work: it is our “calling and vocation.”

What do The Creeds Tell Us?

The Trinity is a central belief in Christianity, emphasizing God's triune nature as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit while remaining one God. The concept originated as early theologians sought to comprehend and explain God based on their encounters with Jesus Christ and the Scriptures. Although the Apostles Creed and Nicene Creed, written over a millennium ago, establish this doctrine, its relevance endures for modern Christians.

Today, the Creeds continue to reveal the relational nature of God, highlighting the Father's love, the Son's redemptive work, and the Holy Spirit's ongoing presence and guidance. They also emphasize the unity within diversity, reminding believers of the call to live in harmony and love amidst their differences. While the creeds provide a foundation, contemporary Christians continue to explore and reflect upon the Trinity, drawing from ancient wisdom to nourish their faith and illuminate their understanding of God's nature.

On Trinity Sunday, Christians gather to reflect specifically on the mystery of the Trinity and celebrate this foundational aspect of our faith. It provides an opportunity for believers to deepen their understanding of God's triune nature and explore its implications for their lives as disciples of Christ.

Prayer box: let us pray for Dean’s grieving family; let us also pray for healing and comfort for Robin, Joyce, and Andy P; let us pray for all who seek God or a deeper understanding of God. Lord, hear our prayer!