Dear friend
Many thanks to Martin for preparing this week's virtual service. He has also chosen a splendid selection of music to accompany it.

In Christ Alone - Celtic Worship
Such a wonderful hymn summarising our faith. The Irish band emphasising the Celtic roots of the tune.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kvFtXphmMU

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Sung by the Plymouth Choir and Congregation of First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln Nebraska on 31 May 2015 accompanied by the Plymouth Brass and Organist Christopher Marks.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SHDNs7Dt5M

O Thou Who Camest From Above
The choir of Rochester Cathedral sing the hymn O Thou Who Camest From Above. Charles Wesley's wonderful words are sung to the lovely tune Hereford composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3UYybc7Xa0

Good, Good Father (Live) - Casting Crowns
Chris Tomlin's mantra taken from Romans 8:12-17. A live worship led by the American band, Casting Crowns.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gSugruC1jQ

For choristers who like to sing from a rolling score, may I add, The Deer's Cry (Arvo Pärt), a setting of the traditional words, also known as St Patrick's Breastplate. It looks easy, but counting the beats is a challenge!
https://youtu.be/OQtWH6uv0rg?list=RDOQtWH6uv0rg

Enjoy!
Chris

Service Sheet for 30th May 2021

TRINITY SUNDAY

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CONFESSION Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. *(Ps.51:1,2)*

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (Ps.103:12)

READINGS: Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29, Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17.

REFLECTION The reading from Romans reminds us that when we first become Christians, we are led there by the Holy Spirit, a feeling of God being in us and with us. Early Christians described this as seeing tongues of fire and hearing a rushing wind. Paul explains that when we cry to God, as a loving father, colloquially, *Daddy,* we become part of his family - his sons and daughters. We become children of God. If we are sons and daughters of God, Paul argues, we will inherit the Kingdom of Heaven, meaning all the good things that our loving Father can give us. What an amazing promise, that we can be in the same family as God and by relation, brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ, God's Son. What an amazing concept that we are in the same family as Jesus, with God the Father at the head of the table! This is the homely way that Saint Paul explains the Trinity. It need not be such a huge concept to explain God and his personal relationship to us as a loving father.

"For all who are led by the spirit of God are children of God... When we cry "Abba, Father!" It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ."

COLLECT: Holy God, faithful and unchanging, enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYERS Lord we pray for your church throughout the world. We ask you to open wide our hearts that we may welcome the stranger and share our faith with others. Open wide our lives that through discipline and prayer we may experience your power in daily living.

Lord of the universe we praise you for your creation, you have provided mankind with everything it needs for life and health. Grant that the resources of the earth may neither be hoarded by the selfish nor squandered by the foolish but that all may share your gifts.

Lord we pray for peace in the world, create in us a love for peace, not peace that is absent from struggle, nor peace that is blind to injustice but peace that makes whole what now is broken.

We remember those who are sick, sad, or lonely and those who are brave and patient when things are going wrong. We pray that they may be aware of your comforting presence and know that in your hands they are safe and loved.

Lord we pray for all whose life is saddened by the death of a loved one, be with them in their loneliness and let them know that Jesus Christ is the light of the world a light which no darkness can quench. *[This is church.com]*

We say THE LORD'S PRAYER…

…and we share THE GRACE

FINAL PRAYER Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and forever.