

Steve Holmes, United Methodist pastor in Massachusetts, writes a daily reflection in, unfoldinglight.net, wrote this week

How do you live through the siege? Whether it is climate change, police brutality, a viral pandemic or 400 (or 200 in Australia) years of white supremacy, how do you live faithfully when there is sickness and evil around you?

First, examine yourself. Keep paying attention. Before you judge others test yourself. The only person you can control is you, so do so. What are your basic values? Do you apply them to yourself and others equally? Be light.

Serve each other. Let every action be for the sake of the wholeness of all, not merely your own advantage. Let compassion guide you. Love.

Bear witness. Be transparent. Do not hide your sorrow or your rage. They are part of your power to care. Don't silence yourself if you are grieving while others are happy, or joyful when others despair. Honor your heart. Don't whine; don't blame or judge. But give your broken heart freedom to speak its truth, to sing its song.

Protect the vulnerable. As the Bible says, "care for the widows and orphans:" for those most at risk, marginalized, or disenfranchised. We are all part of one whole; you are not whole unless your neighbor is.

Disrupt. Interrupt your own participation systems that perpetuate harm or injustice. Whether you would transmit racism, plastic waste or a coronavirus, seek ways to stop the spread. Break the cycle. Practice a new way of living. Do justice.

Hope. Hope is not wishful thinking but trust in what is unseen. God's grace is at work in

ways we can't know. Notice the signs, small and great. Stay in touch with others. Practice gratitude. Seek healing. Set your life in the hands of the *Gentle One* who heals, who even now is creating life.

You can't save the world, but you can bless it. Do justice; love mercy; walk humbly with God. Trust God, and work like hell. You are not alone.

We can talk today about the trinity and come away perhaps even more uncertain or confused about what that means. We might think of the egg as having three parts, yet one egg, or water ice and steam, father son spirit, creator redeemer energizer or even three stumps to make up the wicket in cricket.

But not this year, not Trinity Sunday 2020. For this year the events past current and future don't need Trinitarian explanations or definitions. It needs a Trinitarian experience.

Our world has burned, and is burning, our world is sick and it is recovering, our world is gripped by domestic violence in the communities and cities of the USA and in the homes of Adelaide. Our communities are in the grip of protests and actions relating to black deaths in custody

The only Trinitarian formula we need to hear and know today, is LOVE! L. O. V .E. The divine intention – LOVE!

Richard Rohr in his book, *The Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation* talks about a Relational Universe and says: "*If a rational Creator started this whole thing, then there has to be a "DNA connection," as it were, between the One who creates and what is created*".

We know through microscopes and telescopes that the pattern of the neutrons, protons, and electrons in atoms is similar to the pattern of planets, stars, and galaxies: both are in orbit around one another, and all

appears to be in relationship to everything else.

So a question might be, what might this relational universe mean for us? Genesis describes the creative plan, the divine intention: where God said: Let us create in *our own image, in the likeness of ourselves*" (Genesis 1:26). which seems to speak of a Divine Council that confers with itself.

Rohr then presents us with this: "*The energy in the universe is not in the planets, nor in the atomic particles, but very surprisingly in the relationship between them. It's not in the cells of organisms but in the way the cells feed and give feedback to one another through semi-permeable membranes*".

The energy is not in any definition or in the names of the three persons of the Trinity, as much as in ***the relationship between the Three!*** This is where all the power for infinite renewal is at work: The loving relationship between them.

The infinite love between them. The dance itself.

The divine flow either flows both in and out, or it is not flowing at all. The Law of Flow is simple, as Jesus states "Happy are the merciful; they shall have mercy shown to them" (Matthew 5:7). Or as we say - "What goes around comes around." We are conduits. We are conduits of love, LOVE!

And so what is LOVE/ Trinitarian LOVE?

God is Love.

Love is not an object but an action, a process.

God is love and the loving of love, and the receiving of love.

God is an unfolding relationship.

So God is one, and yet must also be more than one.

God is a loving parent and a begotten child and the love that proceeds from them, all three.

God is community. God is a family.

The Holy Trinity live in loving attentiveness to each other but it is not a closed circle. They open out to us.

You are invited to come to the table, to share in that love, to be part of God's nature, God's being, God's loving.

This is what it means to be part of the Body of Christ.

All people are our sisters and brothers, all living beings, all Creation: though we are many there is only One of us.

Join the communion of the One Who Is Many. Come into the tender love of the Mother who births us, the Lover who desires us, and the love begotten in us.

Find your being in the Holy One in whom we are One.

You are the fourth person of the Holy Trinity. Come. www.unfoldinglight.net

So this Trinity Sunday, how do we live through 'the siege', all that is going on, gone on and will come? What is the Trinitarian flow, this dance?, the divine relationship?, if it is not LOVE!

and in that divine love-dance/relationship - we are the fourth aspect of the Trinity – made in the image or likeness of God – in and through LOVE

And in the words of St Paul in 1 Corth 13- three things (Trinitarian) three things remain, faith hope and love – and the greatest of these is love

Self-giving love – in a time of hoarding and looting

Compassionate love- in a time of violence and pain

Creative love – that brings new and resurrected life out of and within the old and the present

That love, and blessing, dance and flow – out- and in- and out

May- it –be- so!