Then God said, ‘‘Let **us** make man in **our** image, in **our** likeness…

So God created man in **his** own image, in the image of God **he** created male and female.

Notice the shift in pronouns. The verse goes from saying " **us** and **our** image … to **his** and **he**."

The very first chapter of the Bible gives us our first clue that God is not singular, yet still God is **ONE**.

The gospel of John when introducing Jesus says; “In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God, and the **Word** was God. 2Jesuswas with God in the beginning.

It is important that the week after Pentecost –the day the Holy Spirit filled the hearts and minds of the disciples helping them understand…that we see God as three Persons, equal to one another:

Why? Because I believe that is the only way we can truly grasp the fact that God is in our presence.

It is why we come to church, to worship and hear God’s word ...to be reminded that God promises us the Holy Spirit

And will speak in ways we can each understand.

Martin Luther said, [Holy Trinity Sunday] is the one day we see “ God in himself.”

Luther pointed out that all *“Festivals in the church ... other than Trinity Sunday ...center on the works and wonders of God...*

*At Christmas we celebrate God as a human being...entered our lives a new born baby.*

*At Easter we celebrate his resurrection*

*And at Pentecost Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit onto his disciples.”*

Holy Trinity Sunday is the only time we hear God speak about God...about his most inner being”(Day by Day p229, from Sermons on John 3, WS 52:346).

There are other places in scripture where we hear the declaration of the Holy Trinity;

In [Matthew (3:16-17](http://www.biblestudytools.com/search/?t=niv&q=mt+3:13-17)) [When] Jesus was baptized, as he came up out of the water, heaven was opened, and the **Spirit of God** descended like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, “**This is my Son, whom I love**.”

In his first letter Peter when talking about our Salvation [(1 Peter 1:2](http://www.biblestudytools.com/search/?t=niv&q=1pe+1:2)) said we are “chosen according to the foreknowledge of **God the Father,** through the sanctifying **work of the Spirit,** to be obedient to **Jesus Christ - sprinkled with his blood**.

[(2 Corinthians 13:14](http://www.biblestudytools.com/search/?t=niv&q=2co+13:14)) Every Sunday in the beginning of the service I offer so m form of Paul’s word from his letter to the Corinthians, *“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit-be with you all*.”

If we hear about the Trinity from a young age we may not question how it exists.

Or maybe we had a good teacher. According to some, the pretzel was invented by a monk who wanted to illustrate the Trinity to the children of his village with its familiar three-hour shape.

Or maybe we heard the Trinity explained as likened to an egg which has a shell, egg white, and yolk. All three are needed for an egg to be complete.

Even better – consider the different roles a person can play. I am a mother, A grandmother and I am a wife all at the same time. Yet I am only one person.

Do we need to know this? Does any of this matter? Is the Trinity a foregone conclusion?

Our Lutheran doctrine includes the Apostles’ and Nicene creeds, proclaiming God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Do we truly grasp the magnitude of this statement?

It is my hope that we do carry the promise of the Trinity with us wherever we go.

That once we leave this sanctuary, and enter the norms of life and all that life has to offer or take from us...I hope we remember the promise that God

– God himself– is with you and in you. Not just in Jesus ghost or the Holy Ghost but God Himself.

It can be difficult to remember the Spirit of God lives in, around and through our every movement

... when troubles arise or even when we are sailing nicely through life.

Our existence may be too clouded sometimes to recognize His holiness ...while we are in the middle of our mess...

or we could be simply oblivious because we don’t think we need God at that particular moment.

But... like Isaiah we are all sinful by nature...unworthy to approach the throne of God.

Even the angels bow down; “each had six wings: with two they covered their faces and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

... And they sang: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!!!

God is indeed holy, and just as God sets Isaiah apart, God sets us apart too. In our absolution.

Like Isaiah in confessing our sin our eyes will be opened. When we truly repent we become receptive to the message God has for us on any given day.

The burning coal burns the effects of sin and purifies our lips so that we, too, might be prophets for God.

Let this image settle in our hearts today.

At the conclusion of worship the benediction is a blessing for our journey into the world,

“The Lord bless You and keep you, the Lord’s face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.”

We **are** set apart. By the power of God. Which as the Psalmist proclaimed, **is a powerful voice ...**“The same voice that spoke into being the waters as God created all living things ...that is the same power that lives in us.

The choir has sung a song like that by Jeremy Camp, “the same power that rose Jesus from the grave, the same power that commands the dead to wake...lives in us...lives in us....

We will never fully understand God as three persons in one...but God *is* pleased when we use our intellect to try and find ways to be closer to God and to understand all that God has to offer us.

http://www.pierrebittar.com/belief-holy-trinity.html

Let me leave you with this demonstration

**one flame – 3 candles...God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The 3 Candles can be either one flame or when separated each will have the same essence of heat and light...The Holy Trinity can be unified in God or **separated** and each one will have the same essence of love and wisdom.

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name

in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity”

In Matthew [(28:19](http://www.biblestudytools.com/search/?t=niv&q=mt+28:19)) we are commissioned to continually *“go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”*

We are led by the spirit in to the world...and as Jesus tells us in today’s gospel “The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.”

Since we do not know Gods plan we must follow His lead...the power that comes from the Holy Trinity....

the Spirit of God, the blood of Jesus Christ, in the hands of God the father. Amen